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TIMES

30p

MONDAY APRIL 18 1988

Poll tax fury as ministers lash Heseltine

Leader of backbench revolt 'is a stooge'

By Richard Ford and Philip Webster

The Government tonight faces one of its most serious backbench revolts since 1979 amid extraordinary public bitterness between Ministers and rebel Conservative MPs, including Mr Michael Heseltine.

Although the Government's three-figure Commons majority is in danger of falling to around 30 or less in a vote on the poll tax, yesterday it maintained its unprecedented assault on Conservative backbench rebels, and in particular on Mr Heseltine.

The former Cabinet Minister, who resigned during the Westland crisis, was accused

Labour is closing on safe Tories

Labour is winning over twice as many defectors from the Alliance as the Government, according to the most detailed survey of political opinions since the general election.

A MORI survey of more than 11,000 adults in the first quarter of 1988 confirms that Labour has been closing the gap on the Conservatives, though without threatening the solid Tory lead, which remains at 8 per cent compared with 11 per cent at the General Election last June.

Labour's vote is up 6 per cent since last June while the Tory vote is up three points. In Scotland the Labour lead has doubled.

Support for the Democrats and the SDP, has dwindled from 23 per cent then to only 14 per cent.

That is split 8 per cent for the SLD or Democrats, now jointly led by Mr David Steel and Mr Robert Maclean, and 6 per cent for Dr David Owen's SDP. Concern with the National Health Service has tripled since June.

Among those questioned, 10 per cent more were satisfied with Mrs Thatcher's performance than those with Mr Kinnock's.

The survey in detail, page 4

of instigating the rebellion on the flagpole legislation of Mrs Thatcher's third term to further his own ambition to lead the party.

He was depicted as the *eminent grise* behind an amendment from Mr Michael

Recipe for revolt 16
Photograph 24

Mates, Conservative MP for Hampshire East, which aims to make the poll tax fairer by introducing a banding system based on ability to pay.

Mr Heseltine, who has been assiduously cultivating Conservative grassroots since he left the Cabinet, was accused by senior Government sources of "speaking" the revolt.

They said he was guilty of a serious misjudgement in putting himself at the forefront of a campaign led by Conservative MPs motivated by disaffection with the Government rather than genuine opposition to the community charge.

A Whitehall source, recalling the affair that led to Mr Heseltine's resignation, said: "This is further evidence of his lack of judgement, as was shown at the time of Westland."

"It is unfortunate but rather a lot of people resent the way he has used Michael Mates."

The strong personal criticism of Mr Heseltine's alleged role in co-ordinating the revolt, brought an angry response from both Mr Heseltine and his close colleague Mr Mates.

Supporters of the Mates amendment said the Government had resorted to attacking personalities because they knew they had not got a case for a flat-rate community charge.

Mr Heseltine said that when he was opposed to something people knew he was against it. "When I stand for a cause, I do it in my own name and not behind somebody else's shadow."

But in words that will fuel Ministerial suspicions about his long-term motives, he said that, along with Mr Norman Tebbit, he had persuaded the Government to disband the Inner London Education Authority. He was also trying

to constrain development in the south and spread wealth more widely across the country, he added.

Mr Mates denied that he was "Mr Heseltine's stooge", saying: "Do I look like anyone's stooge?"

Government sources belittled the strategy and the amendment from Mr Mates, saying the two backbenchers had failed to think through the consequences of defeat and that the clause was riddled with disadvantages.

It would lead to large increases in the community charge for people starting to pay income tax and for others moving from basic rate to the higher rate, and posed major administrative difficulties.

Mr Michael Howard, Minister of State at the Department of the Environment with responsibility for local government, ruled out further last minute concessions to the rebels. He said: "I don't think we can offer further concessions. We have made improved proposals to meet their concerns. I am confident we shall have a healthy majority."

Government sources fiercely attacked the rebels, saying they appeared not to realise that if the Government was defeated on such a crucial part of its programme it could face a motion of censure from the Labour opposition and might have to repeal its Scottish poll tax legislation.

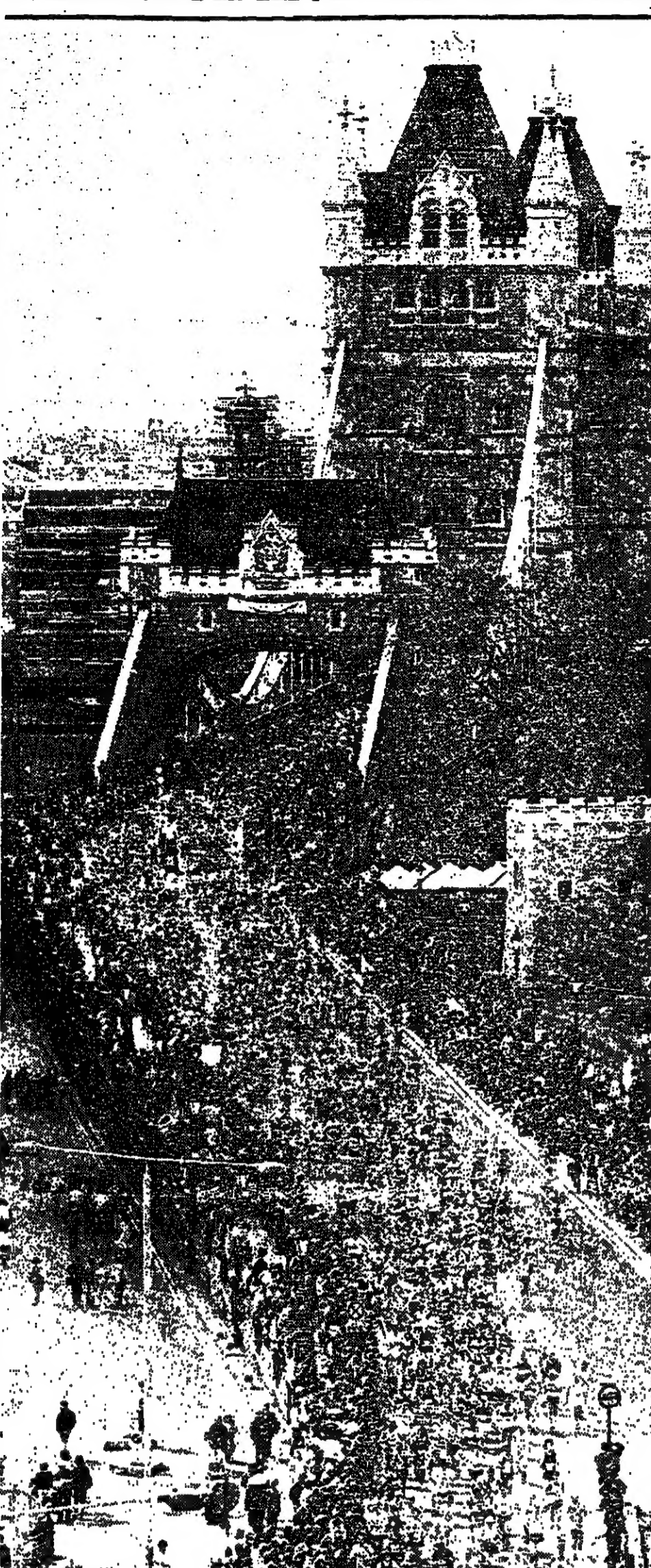
Labour has yet to decide its tactics in the event of a Government defeat or a humiliatingly low majority. It is argued that putting down a motion of censure would automatically force the Conservatives to close ranks behind the Prime Minister.

The Government whips believe they have contained tonight's rebellion to a hard core 35 or so Tory MPs and this figure is not disputed by the rebels. But it would cut the Government's majority by 70 and its difficulties are increased by the fact that the Labour Party and the Ulster Unionists are voting with the rebels.

Since last Thursday's concession over poll tax rebates, several MPs including Mr Henry Bellingham, Sir Geoff

Continued on page 24, col 7

Marathon men call for Budd backing



A Sunday rush hour on Tower Bridge yesterday as some of the thousands of runners in the London Marathon reach halfway point in the race (Photograph: John Rogers).

Britain 'should pull out of Seoul'

By Andrew Moger and Ruth Gledhill

Two top British sportsmen yesterday backed Zola Budd in a dispute over her links with South Africa and said the entire British Olympic team should be prepared to risk being banned from the Seoul games later this year.

They said they would rather the entire British involvement in the Seoul games was sacrificed than see the British Amateur Athletic Board pressured into suspending her. Kevin Forster and Hugh Jones put their own athletic careers in doubt after leading performances in the Mars London Marathon had apparently guaranteed them places in the British Olympics team.

ALL THE FINISHERS

Only *The Times* lists all the marathon finishers, and their times, starting today and continuing until Wednesday page 39
Full story and more photographs page 44

On Saturday the International Amateur Athletic Federation told the governing body of British athletics it should act against the South African-born runner, who holds a British passport.

The federation claims Miss Budd, a long distance runner, broke its rules by "participating" in a cross country race in South Africa last year. It wants a 12 months' ban.

The British Amateur Athletic Board is due to discuss the issue later this week. If the board avoids suspending her, the federation's council has said it will look at the possibility of punishing Britain, a threat taken to include banning the British squad.

Mr Jones said: "It is a matter of blackmail by the IAAF. I think she should be backed all the way by the board and I am prepared to take suspension of the whole team on her behalf."

He said any failure by the board to support Miss Budd would "be a message that they are spineless and without principle."

Mr Forster, who came second in yesterday's marathon, said: "If the charges made against her are the only charges, we should back her even at the expense of the British team in Seoul."

Last night the amateur athletic board said members had already expressed anger at the federation's recommendation to suspend Miss Budd.

More than 22,000 runners raised £7 million for charity in the London marathon, the world's largest running event.

INSIDE

THE TIMES STOCK WATCH

Today *The Times* introduces STOCKWATCH - the most advanced and comprehensive financial information phoneline service in Britain.

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Saturday's winner, page 3.
Portfolio list, page 32.

TOURNAMENT OF THE MIND

This week the top schools battle it out for an IBM Personal System/2 Model 30 computer. First round: page 14.

IN PART ② New test for shares

Exactly six months ago shares prices crashed on Black Monday. Markets this morning face another stiff test after falls in the dollar. A review begins on page 26.

Barclays faces cash call row

Barclays Bank faces a fresh crisis as US investors threaten to spurn its \$921 million cash call. Mr Brian Pierce, its finance director, flies out this week to calm American fears. Page 25

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ITN plans working changes

By John Spicer, Employment Affairs Correspondent

The 15-strong board of ITN will meet this afternoon to approve plans that will lead to far-reaching changes to its operations, aimed at substantial savings and possible cuts in staff levels.

The meeting comes as the two unions directly affected begin planning a merger to form a 60,000-member "super union" to fight attacks from the Government and the ITV companies.

The Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians (ACTT) and the Broadcasting and Entertainment Alliance (BETA) took the decision to merge at their annual conferences held in Brighton and London over the weekend.

ITN, which has been operating for 33 years, receives £55 million from the ITV companies and Channel 4 for its news services. It intends to streamline its operation and widen its activities in the new government-sponsored cli-

mate of de-regulation within the industry.

Today's board meeting is expected to approve the recruitment of more directors from the business world, and to seek capital investment for expansion.

Although ACTT voted at its conference against strike action in protest at changes in working practices, delegates at reiterated their support for striking members at TV-am who were dismissed.

All of the ITV companies are looking for cost savings and staff cuts and the Government has asked the Monopolies and Mergers Commission to look into alleged restrictive practices in the industry.

Today's ITN board meeting is expected to discuss a new generation of television news gathering equipment, which would do away with the "crew" system of news gathering.

The company has been investigating buying 30 of the

latest Japanese cameras, which combine the function of sound, lighting and camera-man into one unit. According to Mr Paul Matthews, deputy chief executive of ITN, they can now be purchased for £18,000 each.

He would not speculate on the effect such equipment would have on manning levels, but said some staff reductions would be inevitable as a result of its introduction. "We expect to see considerable changes in working methods by the time we move into our new building in Gray's Inn Road in 1990."

"New technology will have to be installed into that building to complement the equipment we intend to buy, but we expect that between 60 and 70 per cent of what we want will be achievable and working by the time we move."

Mr David Nicholas, ITN's chief executive, would not go into details about today's meeting.

Passenger warns of 'our dark fate'

From Philip Jacobson, Algiers

The gruelling ordeal of the hostages on board flight KU422 continued yesterday with a breakthrough apparently as far away as ever.

The Algerian negotiators were clearly still unable to persuade the Kuwaiti Government delegation here to reconsider their flat refusal to contemplate the release of any of the 17 terrorist prisoners in the Emirate whose freedom the hijackers are demanding.

Despite the hijackers' assurances yesterday that they would not spill any blood on Algerian territory, the accumulated tension and fatigue must now be telling.

Late in the afternoon, the hijackers produced another passenger for what appeared to be a pre-arranged statement over the plane's radio. Mr Fahmi Awad Doukhi, the son of an eminent Kuwaiti singer, passed on love and best wishes to his family and friends, but

warned that unless Kuwait released all of the 17, "our fate will be a dark one."

The Algerian authorities yesterday abruptly expelled hundreds of reporters from the airport's VIP lounge where they had been allowed to stay for nearly a week. The journalists moved into tents, erected by Algerian security men, on a nearby lawn. About the same time, police, armed with pistols, took up positions on the roof of the terminal building facing the plane. An official said the lounge was urgently needed for Arab ambassadors expected to arrive for a possible expansion of the continuing negotiations.

For all the hijackers' "professionalism", and their announcement yesterday that they would give the Algerians more time to seek a solution, their failure to trap Kuwait's nerve could soon leave them

Continued on page 24, col 4

Kremlin wants joint Middle East role with US

From Christopher Walker
Moscow

The official Soviet Communist Party newspaper, *Pravda*, yesterday said the superpower co-operation which led to last week's Geneva accords on Afghanistan could be used to resolve the conflicts in the Middle East.

The controversial call came amid growing signs of Moscow's determination to play a greater role in the Middle East and claims from both Western and Arab diplomatic sources that it will prove a major issue when the US and Soviet foreign ministers meet here on Thursday to plan the agenda for next month's Moscow summit.

According to Soviet reports from Amman, the Jordanian capital, Mr

Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, is due to visit the region soon, though this has yet to be announced officially. When asked about the visit in Geneva, he replied: "I have my own secrets and I would not like to reveal them all. But if it would help matters, I am ready to go."

There have also been repeated diplomatic reports in Moscow that when Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, who recently returned from two Middle East trips to promote the new US peace plan, arrives here for talks on Thursday he will be bringing senior State Department Middle East experts.

Pravda, claiming that the Geneva accords provided a breakthrough in perceptions of ways to the peaceful

resolution of regional problems, added: "What likewise draws attention is that the Soviet Union and the United States, for the first time, acted jointly as intermediaries and guarantors of the settlement of a regional problem."

"This can become a key to unblocking such 'fossilized' conflicts as, say, the Middle Eastern one. A realistic interaction of Washington and Moscow rather than total rivalry would allow third countries to orientate their foreign policies respectively."

The *Pravda* commentary followed earlier remarks by Mr Shevardnadze, who said after Thursday's historic ceremony in Geneva: "The signing will certainly stimulate a positive solution of other regional problems, including the Middle East."

"We have a very active dialogue on the issue with the United States, with Arab states and the Palestinians, and with other countries. I would say without exaggeration that good prospects are now opening up for a resolution to the Middle East problem. But so far it is all potential, and this potential has to be utilized."

He was speaking only a few days after Mr Mikhail Gorbachev made plain, in Kremlin talks with Mr Yasser Arafat, leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, that recognition of the state of Israel was an essential part of the Middle East solution.

Senior Arab diplomats who studied the text of Mr Gorbachev's remarks as published by *Pravda* noted that,

Continued on page 24, col 3

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NEWS ROUNDUP

Gatwick safety inquiry urged

Mr Iain Sproat, a former minister of aviation, is being pressed to raise the dangers of Gatwick airport with the Prime Minister after the near miss between two holiday jets at the airport last week.

Mr Sproat has been briefed by airlines and pilots. They are concerned about safety risks at the airport, where an emergency runway is being used every night while the main runway is resurfaced. Pilots said yesterday that part of the passenger terminal and the apron was directly in line with the emergency runway. The glare from planes and buildings was a serious hazard to pilots approaching the runway from the west at night.

In last week's incident, a British Island Airways jet landed on the taxiway forcing a manocuvring British Airways jet to swerve on to the grass.

Chemical war protest

Leading British scientists are launching a campaign to halt what they fear is the start of a chemical weapons arms race. Professor Steven Rose of the Open University said: "In March the Iraqi government used chemical weapons for the first time against a civilian population. This is an escalation of the gravest significance and a flagrant breach of the 1925 Geneva Protocol." The campaign has the support of more than 54 scientists in British universities who are calling for the establishment of an international tribunal to review evidence on the use of chemical warfare and international legal action against any government responsible for breaches of the Geneva convention and denial of the technology to those in the Gulf conflict.

Case against hanging

Five men wrongly convicted of murder could have hanged had the penalty been available, the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders said yesterday launching a campaign against the restoration of capital punishment, due to be debated next month in the Commons. The cases are: Patrick Meehan, pardoned after serving six years; Albert Taylor, conviction quashed after five years; John Preece, freed and awarded £77,000 compensation; Michael McMahon and David Cooper, released by the Home Secretary because of doubts as to guilt.

Nurses 'wait and see'

Leaders of Britain's 500,000 nurses said last night that they would "wait and see" if the Government would meet in full the independent review body's recommendations for nurses and midwives' pay. The Government is expected to pay the nurses an average 12.5 per cent rise. The Royal College of Nursing said it had been down the same road before and had been disappointed.

Three on PC charge

Three men have been charged with the murder of Police Constable Frank Mason, who was shot dead while trying to foil a bank raid in Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, on Thursday. Charles McGhee and James Hurley, of Luton, and Perry Wharrie, of south London, appeared before magistrates at Hertford on Saturday. Robert MacFarland, of Luton, was charged with assisting the officer's alleged killers.

Emblem ruling soon

The Director of Public Prosecutions, Mr Allan Green, QC, is expected to decide this week if the Labour Party and Tribune, the left-wing newspaper, should be prosecuted for alleged illegal use of the Red Cross emblem. It is alleged the party used a variant on leaflets and lapel badges as part of its campaign for increased spending on the National Health Service on the eve of the Budget.

Union move to defuse Prescott's challenge

By Roland Radd

The leaders of Britain's two largest trade unions last night launched an initiative aimed at forcing Mr John Prescott to withdraw from the election for the deputy leader of the Labour Party.

Mr Ron Todd, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, and Mr John Edmonds, general secretary of the GMB general union, who command just under almost two million votes at the Labour Party conference, said they would ensure that the role of the deputy leadership would be debated at this year's party conference, thereby fulfilling the prime reason for Mr Prescott's candidature.

The two general secretaries said that since Mr Prescott's candidature had been based on the particular proposal that the role of the deputy leadership should be changed from a purely parliamentary basis to a broader campaigning role there would be no need for him to stand if that issue was given full airing at the party conference.

Mr Sam McCluskie, general secretary of the National Union of Seamen, which has nominated him for the deputy leadership, has already tabled a motion for a full debate on the role of the deputy leadership.

However, the NUS, Mr Prescott's union, which commands a block vote of only 25,000, is in no position to force its will on a Labour conference.

Mr Todd and Mr Edmonds are confident that they can, and last night they said they would ensure that Mr Prescott had the debate for which he has strenuously argued.

The general secretaries will approach Mr Prescott to try to persuade him to withdraw his candidacy.

Mr Edmonds said: "If John does not withdraw he's going to have to say why he wants to continue to run when his basic demand for a serious debate on the role of the deputy leadership (which I have some

sympathies with) has been assured".

The trade union leaders launched their initiative in an effort to narrow the battle between the hard left and the leadership. There is a widespread feeling within the trade union movement that whereas Mr Roy Hattersley would easily beat Mr Eric Heffer, he would be run very close and could ultimately lose to Mr Prescott.

Both Mr Todd and Mr Edmonds do not want the election and are anxious to minimize the damage of a bruising six-month fight.

They believe that a convincing win by Mr Neil Kinnock and Mr Hattersley could ultimately benefit the party. A close-run result over the deputy leadership would spoil their plans for a triumphant win by the present leadership of the Labour Party.

Mr Edmonds wants Labour's national executive committee to set up a working party on the role of the deputy leadership and to look into Mr Prescott's proposals that it should have a strong organizational base instead of being defined as a purely parliamentary role.

The trade union leaders realize only too well that the last time Mr Prescott withdrew from the race after pressure from his own union he was bitterly upset when Mr Kinnock squashed his hopes for a debate on the deputy leadership.

That debate will take place and there will be intense pressure once again on Mr Prescott to withdraw from the race. At the very least, the latest initiative will seriously undermine his chances if he decides to ignore the trade unions' advice and fight on to the conference.

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Ferry strikers vote to stay out



Mr Sam McCluskie, leader of the seamen's union, addressing P&O crews at Dover yesterday (Photograph: Paul Amos).

By John Spicer

Employment Affairs Correspondent
P&O ferry crews based at Dover voted overwhelmingly yesterday to continue their 11-week strike. After a meeting of about 1,500 of the 2,300 striking seamen at Dover, at which only 25 voted against the motion, angry company officials accused NUS leaders of lying to their members.

Mr Peter Thomas, director of cor-

porate affairs for P&O European Ferries, urged employees to contact a special telephone "hotline" to hear the true position. Yesterday's meeting voted on a resolution that the company's latest offer did not represent the options put forward by the conciliation service Acas.

But last night Mr Roger Wilkins, deputy general secretary of the NUS, said: "We are not telling lies to our

members. All we have here is the same cake with different icing. People are still being asked to work extra hours without being paid for them and we think that is wrong."

● Passengers were evacuated from a Sealink ferry at Dun Laoghaire in the Irish Republic yesterday after a small explosion and fire in the engine room. An injured crewman was taken to hospital.

Dispute looms on police pay review

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

Police negotiators are proposing a 13.5 per cent pay rise for officers this year to include money lost in previous years because of changes in the basis of pay calculations.

The Police Federation says proposals by local authorities and the Home Office would cut the pay of new recruits, making the service less attractive, particularly in London.

The sides are to meet again in July and there are growing fears of confrontation.

Pay awards for the police, made each September, are based on the average of an index of underlying pay trends. This year police are likely to get about 8.5 per cent.

The federation, which represents officers up to the rank of superintendent, is arguing

that police should get an extra 5 per cent to compensate for the 1984 award when factors such as strikes and delayed settlements were taken into account.

The employers have told the federation that policemen have done better than groups of manual workers since 1978. Proposals opposed by the federation include no pay rise for a police constable after one year's service, a review of pay for all the constable levels and the end of special allowances for London constables until they have served five years.

An 8.5 per cent increase would give an experienced constable a rise of £892 and a chief superintendent £2,312. A 13.5 per cent rise would give them £1,412 and £3,672 respectively.

Top people's rises in efficiency study

By David Walker, Public Administration Correspondent

Officials in the Lord Chancellor's Department and the Ministry of Defence are understood to be concerned by proposals from the Top Salaries Review Body.

The Treasury insists there can be no across the board payments for Civil Servants at permanent and deputy secretary grades, judges and General officers in the Armed Forces. It wants to use "performance criteria".

However, no one has yet attempted to measure the efficiency of a High Court judge. Senior Army officers, who are assessed according to military criteria, are unlikely to take kindly to additional measurements of their worth.

A spokesman for the Treasury said yesterday that the report of the Top Salaries Review Body was with the Prime Minister and will be considered by the Cabinet. Decisions on payments are likely to be made in parallel with the Cabinet's review of nurses' pay. Ministers want to avoid invidious comparisons between their treatment of NHS staff. ● Nearly nine and a half million adult workers, 46 per cent of the workforce, are low paid, according to a Low Pay Unit analysis of government figures. A report published yesterday, which bases its definition of low pay on the Council of Europe's decency threshold of £135 per week, says the number of low-paid workers in Britain rose last year by 600,000 to 9.4 million.

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A more intelligent approach to computing

Child of courage's success threatened by cuts in benefit

By Tony Dawe

A boy aged nine who has overcome severe brain damage to lead an active life will be at the centre of a Commons dispute today about changes in social security benefits.

Mr Robin Cook, Labour's social security spokesman, and Mr David Blunkett, Labour MP for Sheffield, Brightside, a trustee of Community Service Volunteers, both plan to raise in Parliament the case of Doran Scotson, whose successful treatment at home is threatened by the sudden withdrawal of a social security grant.

The boy proved a cause célèbre as he overcame a doctor's pronouncement that he was a "cabbage" at birth by following a gruelling physical routine. He won a Children of Courage award in 1982 and was pictured in *The Times* in the arms of Mrs Margaret Thatcher.

His progress was helped by the continual support of his mother, Mrs Linda Scotson, and two volunteers who took him through a regular programme of often violent exercises at his home near East Grinstead, West Sussex, to stimulate his system.

Mrs Scotson, after a long

struggle, won a £43-a-week domestic needs allowance from the Department of Health and Social Security to pay for the board and lodging of the two volunteers, supplied by the Community Service Volunteers organization.

She was told last week that the allowance had been stopped and that under the changes in benefits her only right of appeal is to another Civil Servant.

Mrs Scotson said: "I am staggered by the decision. It seems apparently from innocent remarks I made on a local radio station. In trying to encourage mothers of similarly handicapped children, I said how well Doran was doing. I then received a visit from a DHSS official who had been listening and who asked me detailed questions about Doran's health and my circumstances."

Mrs Scotson won the immediate support yesterday of Community Service Volunteers, who have supplied her with 117 volunteers to help look after Doran over the years.

"This is extraordinary behaviour from a government committed to providing com-

munity care", Miss Elisabeth Hoodless, the organization's director, said.

"It appears to be an attack on volunteers which could cost far more money than is being saved, for if Mrs Scotson is unable to cope on her own, her son will have to be admitted to an institution at a cost of £30,000 a year."

Mr Blunkett, who will seek an emergency debate on the case in the Commons today, said: "It is a very worrying development if handicapped children are going to have to be cared for in institutions instead of their own homes."

The DHSS said last night that it was standard procedure for grants to be reviewed if officials became aware of a change of circumstances.

"It would be up to the local adjudication officer to make a decision based on all the available evidence before him", it said, but added that in view of the concern about the case "we would wish to look at it very carefully."

The boy's remarkable improvement follows his mother's refusal to accept a doctor's diagnosis that he was suffering from irreversible brain damage at birth.

Guarding against egg collectors



Mr Elliott, left, and Mr Robinson, at Sandy, Bedfordshire, watching for illegal egg collectors (Photograph: Marc Aspland).

By Andrew Morgan

One of the biggest security operations to guard the nests of rare birds of prey from organized gangs of springtime egg thieves is being started this week by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.

Among the birds given greatest surveillance are white-tailed eagles, reintroduced to Britain 14 years ago; red kites; osprey; golden eagles; and merlin.

Mr Graham Elliott, a species protection officer with the association, said: "We must guard nests every minute. We

have technology on our side these days, but as we develop techniques, the collectors find ways around them."

This week two company directors are due to appear before magistrates in Peterborough, charged with stealing more than 1,000 eggs. They were charged, after one of the association's biggest investigations.

Each year, about one thousand reports of alleged egg theft, bird of prey poisoning and illicit dealing reach the association but its resources only allow

them to bring private prosecutions in about 25 cases. It passes on other cases to the police for prosecution, but the number of cases reaching court barely tops a hundred.

Mr Peter Robinson, the senior investigations officer, said: "We try to wheedle out and focus on those dealing with rare birds."

According to Mr Robinson, about 500 egg collectors are active. Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981, they face fines of £2,000 for eggs of rare birds.

Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator Two split winnings of £8,000

A former squadron leader and a retired Civil Servant share the weekly Portfolio prize of £8,000.

Squadron Leader Richard Phillips, aged 77, of Penrhyn, Dyfed, served in the RAF for 37 years.

He said: "My wife, Olwen, and myself will be celebrating our golden wedding in December so we will be able to afford a formal occasion."

Sharing the prize is Mr Donald Manning, aged 64, of Charlton Road, Weston-super-Mare, Avon.

He and his wife, Rosalyn, intend to have their first holiday for 10 years.



Mr Manning: overdue holiday in the offing.

Lords seek cash for small schools

By John Clare, Education Correspondent

A campaign to oblige the Government to fund any small school that a group of 30 or so parents wants to establish is launched today with a Lords amendment to the Education Reform Bill.

The amendment, to the clause that empowers the Secretary of State for Education and Science to enter into agreements to establish and maintain city technology colleges, is being tabled by Lord

religious faith or use significantly different teaching methods.

The idea is being promoted by the newly formed Campaign for Educational Choice which draws its inspiration from Denmark where any group of parents with more than 27 children among them can start a school of their choice and have it paid for by the state.

The campaign says the same is true in The Netherlands, where only a quarter of the schools are run by the state and the rest, which are the responsibility of a variety of foundations and associations, are funded by the ministry of education on the same footing as state schools.

Mr Tony Flower, the campaign co-ordinator, said it was high time Britain followed the lead of Denmark and The Netherlands. "At present, the Bill does nothing to extend parental choice for those who cannot afford to pay fees. Even schools that opt out of local authority control will have to maintain the same character. The choice the Bill offers is a pretence. We want to make it more humane."

A model of the type of school the campaign would like the Government to support is the Small School in Hartland, Devon. It was founded six years ago after the closure of a local secondary school left village children with a daily round trip of 30 miles to the nearest comprehensive.

Head teachers' fears that the new GCSE examination was making such heavy demands on pupils that many would be discouraged from entering are shown to be unfounded by figures released by the four GCSE groups in England.

The Northern Examining Association and the Midland Examining Group received significantly more entries for GCSE than they had last year for O level and CSE, the two examinations that GCSE replaces. The London and East Anglian Group received about the same while the Southern Examining Group reported a slight fall.

Young of Dartington, a lifelong campaigner in the cause of alternative education.

Lord Young said yesterday that his aim, in line with Conservative philosophy, was to open up the variety of schools between which parents could choose to include those that put an emphasis on the arts, serve small communities, stand for a particular

The Psychological Society

Happiness index measures moods

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Advertisers may have been proclaiming confidently what "happiness is", but scientists have, for rather different reasons, been working out a way to measure it.

Their results were presented yesterday to the British Psychological Society in the form of the Oxford Happiness Inventory.

Clinical psychologists find an increasing need for measuring happiness. Such a measure is necessary to check the effectiveness of the new psychological therapies being devised as alternatives to treatment for the types of depression for which drugs are prescribed based on benzodiazepines, a cause of anxiety because they are addictive.

The new happiness index has been devised by a team working with Professor Michael Argyle, of Oxford University. It has been designed as a substitute for a long-standing technique of psychologists for testing subjects, called the

Beck Depression Inventory.

The new version is intended, among other things, to take account of colloquial changes in the English language. The happiness scale depends on tests that involve word associations and the creation of verbal pictures. The happiness inventory is a research tool to assess the effectiveness of approaches to treating depression. In the simplest tests on the subject to check if these measures are working, the subject is asked to think of 10 "emotion" words. Depressives come up with a list such as anxious, worried, depressed, gloomy, oppressed. Once they improve they are more likely to think of words such as happy, cheerful, joy, glad, pleased, contented.

Memory also changes with mood. When subjects are given a list of words and sentences to be recalled a week or two later, they remember most if they are in the same mood as when they originally learnt them.

Escape time 'lost'

People caught in fires waste life-saving seconds when they should be escaping, according to Professor David Canter, a technical adviser to the inquiry into the King's Cross fire.

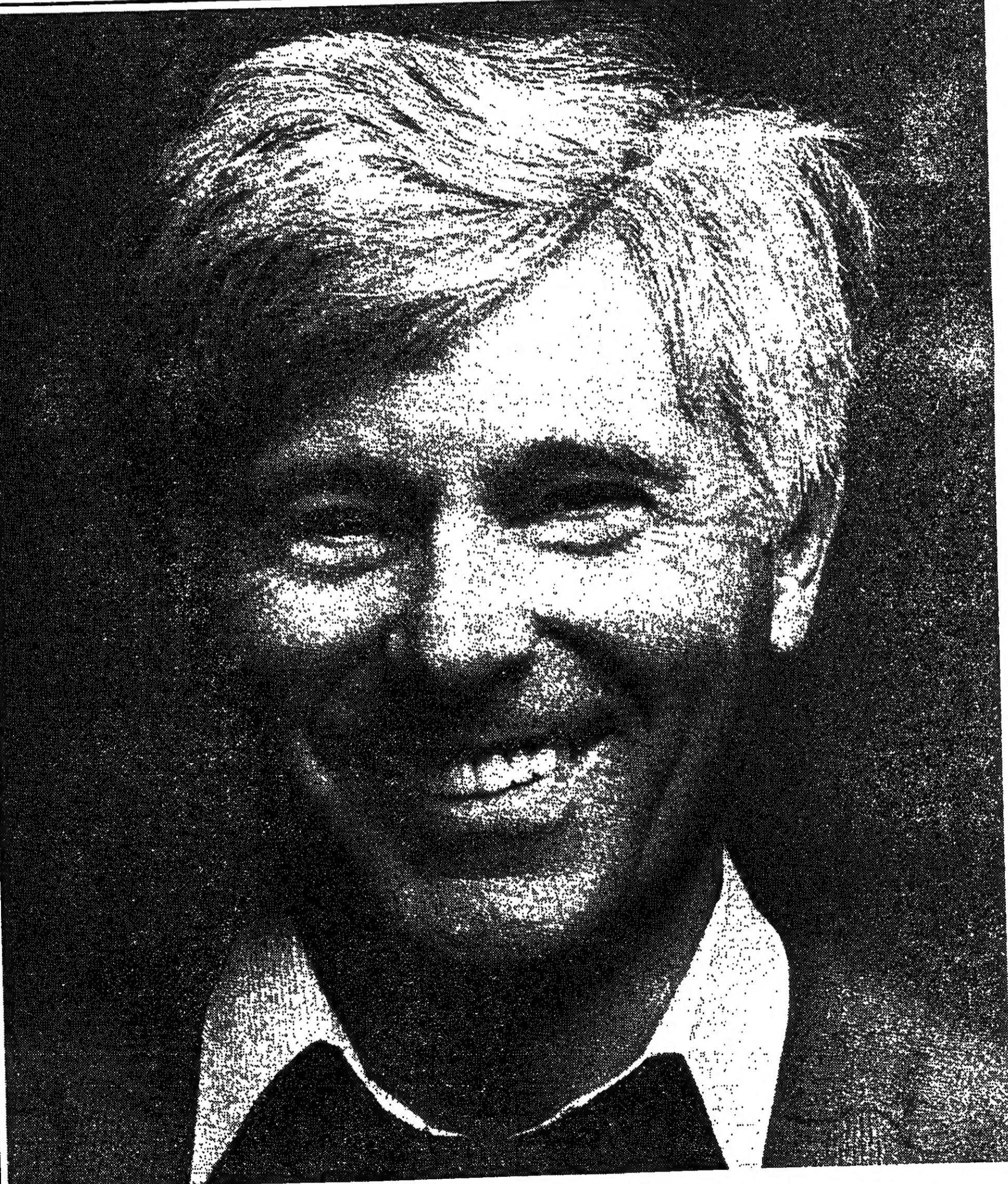
He told the society that normal behaviour for travellers on the platform when the King's Cross fire started would have been to take the first train out, but they followed an instruction and left the platform.

Professor Canter, of Surrey

University, has spent 10 years studying the behaviour of people caught in fires in hotels, hospitals and homes.

As a member of the Popplewell inquiry, he investigated how people reacted during the Bradford City football ground fire.

Professor Canter suggests that at the critical moments, people look for confirmation about what has gone wrong and seek some individual or person in authority to suggest what to do next.



For a man whose heart stopped beating 3 years ago, he's not looking bad.

You're looking at a modern day miracle. According to the laws of nature this man should be dead and buried.

Three years ago he had a severe heart attack followed by a heart by-pass operation.

Today, he's back at work, leading a healthy, active and enjoyable life.

A life that he owes to the skill of the surgeon coupled with the benefits of effective medicines. Medicines that now

include those which can actually dissolve the blood clots that cause heart attacks and strokes.

Thus opening the way to a fast and fuller recovery.

And the story doesn't stop there. Helping after the event is not enough.

Our aim is to prevent heart attacks from happening in the first place.

Further important innovations in circulatory disease medicines are being developed by the British pharmaceutical

industry in close co-operation with universities and hospitals.

Even so, medicines cannot succeed on their own.

We need your help. And the best way you can help us is to help yourself.

Eat less fat, stop smoking and take regular exercise.

The sooner you do that, the sooner we can turn more attention to preventing other fatal diseases.

THE BRITISH PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY HELPING TO KEEP BRITAIN HEALTHY.



11,000 questioned in the most detailed survey of political opinion since the general election

Labour is closing gap but Tories sitting pretty

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

An aggregation of the MORI polls, providing the most comprehensive survey of political opinions since the general election, confirms that Labour is closing the gap slowly but steadily on the Conservatives, winning over twice as many former Alliance voters as the Tories.

But in spite of the controversy over the National Health Service and a Budget widely held to have favoured the rich at the expense of other sectors in society, the Conservatives retain a clear lead and nothing short of an economic crisis seems likely to disturb their dominance.

The MORI study of more than 11,000 people, 9,000 now expressing a voting intention, shows support for the Conservatives at 46 per cent and the two former Alliance parties on 14 per cent between them, with the most recent poll showing the Steel/Maclean SLD taking 8 per cent and Dr David Owen's SDP 6 per cent. That compares with figures at the general election on June 11 of Conservatives 43 per cent, Labour 32 per cent and the Alliance 23 per cent.

For some time before the last election, leading Labour figures declined to consider electoral deals with the Alliance, arguing that the likely split in the Alliance vote, if it were redistributed, would favour the Tories by 2:1. In fact, Labour is taking two former Alliance votes for every one going to the Conservatives.

As the tables show, the Alliance share has dropped by 9 per cent since last June. Meanwhile, the Labour share is up six points and the Tory share up three. The Alliance has lost particularly badly among younger voters, with an 11 per cent fall in both the



the Conservatives and in the 35 to 54 age group, Labour is picking up seven votes for every two gained by the Tories.

But in the 18-24 age group, the split is six voters to Labour for five to the Tories and in the 25-34 "young family" age group, they are level pegging with a 6 per cent increase each.

Surprisingly, Labour is making no bigger advance among trades unionists than it is among non trades unionists. While it has won 6 per cent increased support among trades unionists since the last election, Tory support in the same sector is also up by 5 per cent. Opinion polls have consistently shown support for Tory trades union reforms, even among union members, and Labour's election pledge to scrap the Conservative trade union legislation, repeated only last weekend by Mr Kinnock, may be deterring trade union members from swinging back to Labour.

In class terms, Labour is taking an extra seven votes in the DE classification - the unskilled working class and state pensioners - to every one gained by the Conservatives. Among the skilled working class C2 voters, the Conservatives are winning a third as many converts as Labour and among the ABC1 professional, managerial and white collar groups the two main parties are dividing equally between them the 10 per cent lost by the Alliance since the general election.

The Midlands remains the key to swinging electoral fortunes and it is therefore significant that while in the South Labour is picking up two voters to every one gained by the Tories and in the North it is taking four votes for every two, the ratio in the Midlands is only five new Labour votes to every four new Tory ones. So Labour is winning votes essentially where it does the party little good.

One intriguing point which must affect political calculation based on these figures is that the social revolution brought about during the Thatcher years has been especially pronounced in the south of England. There, only a bare majority of 54 per cent are now working class compared with 63 per cent in the Midlands and 65 per cent in the North.

In the South, 21 per cent live in council homes, in the Midlands 25 per cent do and

in the North the figure rises to 31 per cent. The north-south divide is now not just a concept of mind but a psephological fact.

One worrying trend for the Government, which has put considerable effort into seeking to revamp Conservative fortunes north of the border, is that the seven point lead for Labour in Scotland at the election has now been doubled to 15 per cent, with all the collapsed Alliance votes apparently swinging to Labour and little evidence of an increase in support for the nationalists. This will have, no doubt, a substantial implication for the district elections due to take place on May 5 in Scotland.

Among owner occupiers, Labour is taking three votes for every two to the Tories, among private tenants they are practically level but among council tenants, a dwindling group, Labour is taking six extra votes for every one gained by the Conservatives.

Throughout the last two parliaments, there was a "gender gap" which favoured the Conservatives. Women voters



Mr Neil Kinnock: failing to capture trade unionists.

tended to be 6 to 8 per cent more likely to support the Tories than men, except for three months during the Falklands war. At the general election the gap disappeared, but now it appears to be opening up again with the Conservative lead two points higher among women voters.

There has been a highly significant change since the election in the issues considered of the greatest importance.

As the graph shows, those declaring that the National Health Service or health care generally is a key issue have more than trebled since July. Concern over unemployment has begun to rise again in spite of a run of lower unemployment figures over the past 20 months, and there has been a sharp increase in the number listing crime and law and order as a prime concern.

That will disappoint the Government, which has been investing heavily in crime prevention schemes in recent months and which has seen a marginal downturn in the crime figures. The explanation may well be the sharp increase in recent weeks after the

Northern Ireland funeral killings because the number giving Northern Ireland as a major issue has risen sharply in the past month from 1 per cent to 15 per cent.

As the accompanying graph shows, there is a high correlation between the Conservative lead over Labour and the Economic Optimism Index - that is the margin between those who expect economic circumstances to improve during the next year and those who expect them to get worse.

Last June, 44 per cent thought things would improve over the year and 28 per cent thought they would get worse, a plus factor of 16 points. In the latest poll, 37 per cent thought things would improve and 26 per cent thought they would get worse, a net optimism figure of 11 per cent.

In terms of satisfaction with the parties and with their leaders, 49 per cent of voters are dissatisfied with Mr Neil Kinnock's performance, and 36 per cent satisfied, precisely the same figures as at the general election.

He has failed to rise above 50 per cent satisfaction since soon after gaining the leadership in 1983. But Mr Kinnock is well above his lowest point last year when 28 per cent were satisfied with his performance and 58 per cent dissatisfied. Among Labour supporters, 29 per cent are now dissatisfied with Mr Kinnock and among trade unionists, 49 per cent are dissatisfied. Almost half of working class people are dissatisfied with Mr Kinnock's performance.

Satisfaction with Mrs Thatcher is 10 points higher at 46 per cent, but she too has 49 per cent dissatisfied. At the election she had a 10 per cent plus rating with 51 per cent satisfied and 41 per cent dissatisfied.

The biggest change in the leadership ratings is the sharp drop in Mr David Steel's popularity. At the last election, 45 per cent of voters were satisfied with the way he was doing his job. With Mr Steel expected to announce shortly that he will be a candidate for the leadership of the Democrats, or SLD, his satisfaction rating has now dropped to just 25 per cent, with 45 per cent dissatisfied with his efforts.

The survey involved 11,305 adults questioned during the first quarter of 1988. More than 9,000 expressed a voting intention. The sample size gives a 95 per



Owen, Steel, Maclean: their fortunes are changing.

CHANGE IN VOTING

Comparison of the change in voting intention since the General Election (%)

	GE	All	Ch	GE	Men	Ch	GE	Women	Ch
Conservative	43	46	+3	43	46	+3	43	46	+3
Labour	32	36	+4	32	36	+4	32	36	+4
Alliance	23	14	-9	23	12	-11	23	15	-8
Con lead	+11	+8	-3	+11	+7	-4	+11	+9	-2

	GE	ABC1	Ch	GE	C2	Ch	GE	DE	Ch
Conservative	54	59	+5	40	42	+2	30	31	+1
Labour	18	23	+5	36	42	+6	48	55	+7
Alliance	28	18	-10	22	13	-9	22	12	-8
Con lead	+36	+36	0	+4	0	-4	+18	+19	-6

	GE	18-24	Ch	GE	25-34	Ch	GE	35-54	Ch
Conservative	37	42	+5	39	45	+6	45	47	+2
Labour	39	34	-5	38	39	+1	38	37	-1
Alliance	21	10	-11	25	14	-11	24	15	-9
Con lead	-3	-3	0	+4	0	-4	+18	+11	-5

	GE	55+	Ch	GE	Trade Unionist	Ch	GE	Non TU	Ch
Conservative	46	47	+1	30	35	+5	47	49	+2
Labour	31	36	+5	42	48	+6	29	35	+6
Alliance	21	15	-6	26	14	-12	22	14	-8
Con lead	+15	+11	-4	-12	-13	-1	+18	+14	-4

	GE	Owner occupier	Ch	GE	Council tenant	Ch	GE	Private tenant	Ch
Conservative	33	35	+2	44	48	+4	52	55	+3
Labour	42	50	+8	33	38	+5	21	27	+6
Alliance	21	12	-9	21	12	-9	27	17	-10
Con lead	-9	-15	-6	+11	+10	0	+31	+28	-3

	GE	55+	Ch	GE	Trade Unionist	Ch	GE	Non TU	Ch
Conservative	46	47	+1	30	35	+5	47	49	+2
Labour	31	36	+5	42	48	+6	29	35	+6
Alliance	21	15	-6	26	14	-12	22	14	-8
Con lead	+15	+11	-4	-12	-13	-1	+18	+14	-4

POLITICAL TRENDS

VOTING INTENTION

Q: How would you vote if there was a general election tomorrow?

	Con	Lab	All	Oth	Con lead
1988	46%	36%	12%	2%	+10
Jan 22-26	50%	36%	12%	2%	+14
Feb 26-Mar 1	48%	38%	14%	2%	+8
Mar 24-28	46%	37%	14%	3%	+9

* Question to those undecided or refused
† Alliance % split: 5% SLD, 6% SDP (Figs exclude don't know, etc)

STATE OF THE ECONOMY

Q: Do you think that the general economic condition of the country will improve, stay the same or get worse over the next 12 months?

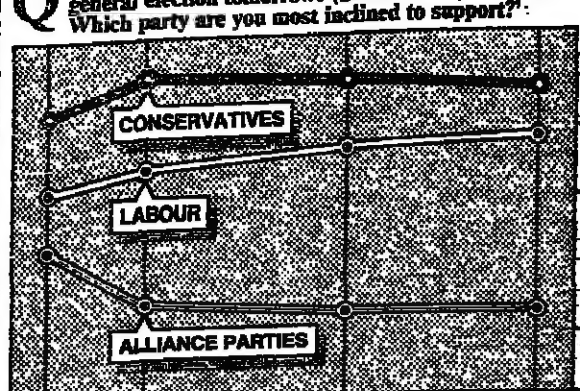
	Improve	Same	Worse	Not improve
1988	36%	33%	24%	12%
Jan 22-26	37%	33%	24%	12%
Feb 26-Mar 1	31%	32%	27%	10%
Mar 24-28	37%	29%	26%	11%

cent certainty that results will be accurate within plus or minus 1 per cent. Interviews were carried out face to face in more than 170 constituencies sampling points throughout the country and throughout the quarter and the data were weighted to reflect accurately the statistical composition of the country.

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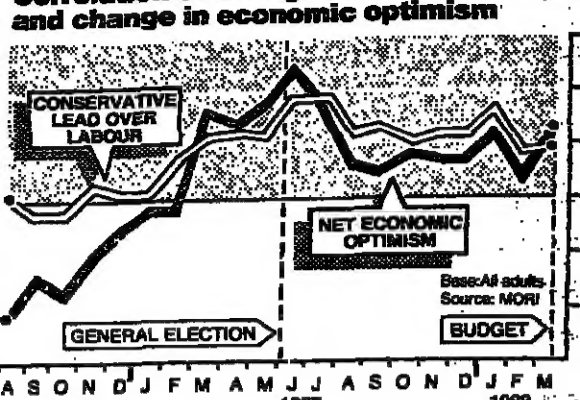
Voting intention since the election

Q: How would you vote if there was a general election tomorrow? (If undecided/refused): Which party are you most inclined to support?



General election 3rd Quarter 1987
Average 4th Quarter 1987
Average 1st Quarter 1988
Base: All adults expressing voting intention (3rd Q: 8,114, 4th Q: 6,051, 1st Q: 9,068) Source: MORI

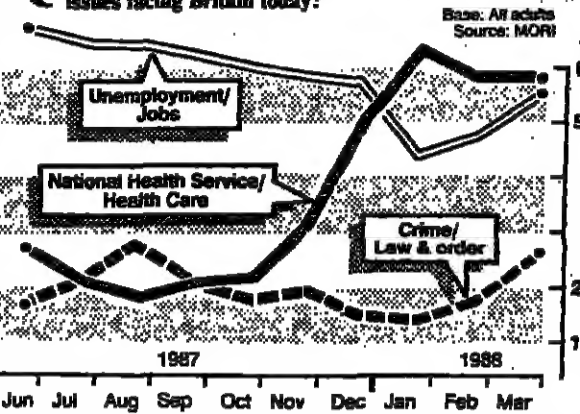
Correlation of change in voting intention and change in economic optimism



Base: All adults Source: MORI

Most important issues

Q: What would you say is the most important issue facing Britain today? What do you see as other important issues facing Britain today?



SATISFACTION RATINGS

Q: Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way

- The Government is running the country?
- Mrs Thatcher is doing her job as Prime Minister?
- Mr Kinnock is doing his job as leader of the Labour Party?
- Mr Steel is doing his job as joint leader of the SLD?
- Mr Maclean is doing his job as joint leader of the SLD?
- Dr Owen is doing his job as leader of the SDP?

	Govt	Thatcher	Kinnock	Steel	Maclean	Owen
1988	Sat	Sat	Sat	Sat	Sat	Sat
Jan 22-26	40	46	33	23	9	41
Feb 26-Mar 1	37	45	35	24	11	42
Mar 24-28	39	46	36	25	11	38

ISSUES

Q: (a) What would you say is the most important issue facing Britain today? (b) What do you see as the other important issues facing Britain today?

	Unemployment	Prices	Disarmament	NHS	Law/order	N Ireland	Education	AIDS
1988	45%	2%	13%	64%	15%	1%	14%	5%
Jan 22-26	45%	2%	13%	64%	15%	1%	14%	5%
Feb 26-Mar 1	49%	3%	12%	59%	17%	1%	13%	6%
Mar 24-28	56%	5%	12%	59%	26%	15%	14%	7%

Closure of Settle line 'thwarted'

By Kerry Gill

One of the most spectacular railway lines in England may be saved from closure after a decision by local authorities to inject £500,000 during the next three years.

Closure of the Carlisle to Settle line was announced by British Rail five years ago.

A committee of representatives from all district councils along the line and the Friends of the Line was formed to fight the proposal and last February the Government said that it would look more favourably on the case if the councils would commit £500,000 towards the crumbling Ribbleshead Viaduct in Yorkshire.

Mr Bill Cameron, chairman of the committee and a Cumbria county councillor, said the £500,000 would be added to £1 million promised by English Heritage and that he was confident the Government would refuse permission for the closure.

WHITEHALL BRIEF by David Walker

Mandarin moves on among the dons

The skills and brain power of permanent secretaries are still welcome among the university dons in Scotland.

The proof is with Sir William Fraser, who retired as permanent secretary at the Scottish Office at the end of March. In a few months he will become principal of Glasgow University.

"I don't see myself becoming a great public figure," was his comment in a recent interview.

Yet his knowledge of how Whitehall works could be invaluable for a university which, although it educated Adam Smith, has not fared well in the financial climate willed by the Smith's disciples.

His fellow Civil Servants, at least in Scotland, see the appointment as a welcome sign that harsh words of recent years between academia and government have not ruined relations.

Sir William was anxious to dispel a fable about the Scottish Office that he said circulates even in Whitehall.



Sir William: anxious to dispel a fable.

It is that, because of distance, Scottish public administration has been insulated either from the managerial or the financial pressures that engulfed the Civil Service in the 1980s.

The permanent secretary spends three out of five working days not in the "Lubanks" which houses the Scottish Office in Edinburgh, but in the more elegant surroundings of Dover House, just up Whitehall from the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

There is no sense in which

we don't feel the hot breath of the Treasury."

The permanent secretary at the Scottish Office is only one among seven Scottish accounting officers - officials who can be hauled before the public accounts committee to justify their spending.

Although Scottish programmes total some £8 billion in value Sir William personally has been responsible for their running costs, some £115 million.

Ministers "vary a great deal in the way they see themselves as managers. Some are would-be chief executives; others relish being provided with a Rolls-Royce administrative machine", he said.

The permanent secretary's job is to put at the disposal of ministers just such an automobile, one moreover with a tremendous accretion of experience of governing Scotland.

For Sir William that has meant not only co-ordination of the branches of Scottish

government, but implementing in Scotland the financial management and related initiatives.

In contrast to colleagues in other departments, Sir William has had a sort of plenipotentiary role: not only is he the Scottish official most regularly seen in Whitehall, he also has to get out and about in Scotland itself.

"The permanent secretary in the Scottish Office has an unrivalled opportunity to meet people in Scotland in industry, agriculture and health", he said.

The exigencies of politics has undoubtedly put a strain on the official machine. He says: "People are too thin on the ground for the amount of work". The department must also cope with a shortage of politicians since the 1987 election slimmed Tory ranks in Scotland.

The pressure may intensify in the autumn when Glasgow University acquires the Scottish administrative skills of Sir William.

Motorway repairs

Cameras to monitor M25 during lane widening

By Rodney Cowton Transport Correspondent

A new phase starts this week in the £30 million building of additional lanes on the congested M25, between Chertsey and Staines in Surrey.

The work began two months ago, strengthening the hard shoulders. From this week, those will start to be used as driving lanes, to allow work to begin on constructing fourth lanes on each carriageway.

To avoid serious dislocation by accidents and breakdowns, the works will be monitored by closed circuit television.

London and South-east

M1 London: lane closures both directions, jns 4-5.

M1 Buckinghamshire: lane closures both directions, near jn 14.

M11 Essex: contraflow jns 6-7. Lane closures both directions, north of jn 8.

M20 Kent: contraflow jns 11-12.

M26 Kent: lane closures both directions, between M20 and M25.

M3 Hampshire: hard shoulder, inside lane closed both directions, jns 5-6.

M25 Surrey: lane closures 7pm to 6.30am jns 11-13; weekend lane closures.

M25 Hertfordshire: lane closures both directions, jns 24-25.

M40 Buckinghamshire: lane closures both directions, jns 5.

Midlands

M5 Hereford/Worcester: contraflow jns 5-6; northbound entry jn 6 closed; additional lane closures jns 4-8.

M6 West Midlands: southbound

entry slip road from Salford Circus closed.

North

M6 Cheshire: contraflow, jns 16-17; contraflow, jns 21a-23.

M6 Lancashire: lane closures, jns 26-27; contraflow, jns 29-31; M61 closed northbound, jn 9-M6.

M6 Cumbria: contraflow northbound, jns 41-42.

M62 Lancashire/West Yorkshire: lane closures both directions, jns 21-22.

M62 West Yorkshire: contraflow, jns 25-26.

M56 Greater Manchester: both exit slips, jn 7 closed.

M63 Greater Manchester: single-line traffic jns 3-6.

M67 Greater Manchester: lane closures east and west.

Wales and West

M4 Wiltshire: lane closures both directions near jn 15.

M4 Avon: lane closures, both directions, jns 18-19.

M4 Gwent: lane closures, jn 24: lane closures, jn 28.

M5 Gloucestershire: off-peak lane closures, both carriageways, jns 10-12.

M5 Somerset: lane closures, both directions, jns 22-jn 29.

Scotland

M8 Lathian: eastbound, hard shoulder only, jn 3.

M8 Strathclyde: westbound lane closures, jns 16-17.

M74 Strathclyde: closed northbound, jns 9-8. Two-way traffic southbound to jn 6.

Information compiled and supplied by AA Roadwatch

Hopes rest with Nunn challenge

By Raymond Keene Chess Correspondent

BMA protests over legal advertising to encourage claims

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The British Medical Association has protested to the Law Society about advertisements by solicitors encouraging people to come forward if they believe they may have a claim for medical negligence or other personal injury.

The protest by the doctors' professional body, which the Law Society has rejected, comes at a time of mounting concern about the growth of negligence actions in the courts and the size of awards.

A massive legal action is being co-ordinated by solicitors for some 1,000 potential claimants over tranquilizers.

Dr John Havard, secretary of the BMA, said: "We have complained to the Law Society over what we believe to be an unsuitable kind of advertisement. Solicitors were advertising in the local press, he said, to encourage potential claimants to come forward."

Last year the Law Society launched a free advice scheme under which people can obtain a free initial interview with a solicitor if they think they may have an accident claim. In the first few months this has brought in some 5,000 potential claimants who otherwise would not have

been in contact with a solicitor.

The Law Society also advertises through its professional journal to co-ordinate solicitors handling claims of a similar kind, as in the Zebrugge ferry disaster.

Mr Walter Merricks, an assistant secretary general at the society, said it was up to solicitors how they advertised provided they complied with the society's own code.

If there was a group of claims such as over Opren, the anti-arthritis drug, it was important that potential claimants should be encouraged to come forward within the deadlines set by the court.

The society's view was that if people had a legitimate claim, there was nothing wrong with helping them.

Both the British Medical Association and the Medical Defence Union are forecasting yet another sharp rise in insurance premiums for doctors this year, and an increase in "defence" medicine in the face of mounting negligence claims.

Dr Havard said he thought premiums now standing at £1,000 could well rise to £2,000 this autumn. Similarly Dr John Wall, secretary of the

MDU which indemnifies doctors, predicted a rise in its premiums by "a number of hundreds". Last year rates rose by 87 per cent and the year before by 74 per cent.

Dr Wall said that one effect of actions such as that over tranquilizers was that patients would be taken off the drug even though it was still appropriate to use it.

Another danger was "defensive" medicine, which has huge cost implications for the health service's budget.

Dr Havard said already many ankle sprains were routinely X-rayed, although less than 1 per cent of them would show a fracture and less than 1 per cent of those again would suffer any disability if untreated. X-rays were taken because of possible legal action, not medical indications, he said.

Another instance cited by doctors is the huge number of unnecessary admissions of people with head injuries. Several medico-legal actions are pending, including one over whooping cough vaccine, the *Balkan Shield* contraceptive pill, a second Opren case, and blood products contaminated with the Aids virus.

JP's losing faith in probation service

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

Unquestioning trust and confidence in the probation service no longer exists among many magistrates and much of the public, Mr John Hosking, chairman of the Magistrates' Association, told senior probation officers.

Mr Hosking, speaking at the conference of the National Association of Senior Probation Officers, said the situation had not been helped by the readiness of many probation officers to identify with the defendant rather than the court, and actual or implied criticisms of magistrates' decisions.

He said: "If the probation service seeks to criticize magistrates in public for their inconsistency and over-use of custody, it may actually be criticizing itself."

He said figures suggested that about 12 per cent of social inquiry reports made no recommendation for sentence. Of the remainder, between 60 and 70 per cent were followed by the magistrates.

Mr Hosking said while many probation officers could not bring themselves to mention the word "custody", the chances of improved agreement between probation officers' recommendations and magistrates' decisions were fairly poor.

The high-tech invasion



The march of progress gives invading Vikings high-tech aids to marshal their troops for cameramen filming at Peel, Isle of Man. An American television company is making a series presenting events of the Middle Ages as broadcast news (Photograph: Mark Pepper).

AEU faces revolt on no-strike deals

By Tim Jones

Leaders of the Amalgamated Engineering Union will this week attempt to fight off a revolt among its members to prevent the signing of single-union deals and the acceptance of no-strike agreements.

Decisions taken at the union's conference, which begins today, could be crucial to Mr Norman Willis, general secretary of the Trades Union Congress.

He is seeking a formula to placate the engineers and electricians, who have threatened to break away if their freedom to enter such deals is curbed.

The TUC has been thrown into one of its most damaging splits after the decision of Ford to abandon its plans for a £40 million plant at Dundee because of opposition, led by Mr Ron Todd of the Transport and General Workers' Union, to the single-union deal which had been negotiated by the AEU.

Two motions to be discussed at the conference instruct the executive council to oppose so-called "beauty contests" where unions compete with each other for negotiating rights.

A further six motions condemn the signing of any "no-strike deals" and instruct the leadership to "continue to uphold the right to strike".

Legal aid savings 'wrongly directed'

Government plans to make the legal aid scheme more efficient came under strong attack from the president of the Law Society yesterday.

Mr Derek Bradbeer told a weekend conference held by the society in Exeter that the proposals in the Legal Aid Bill, about to start its passage through the Commons, could "inflict serious damage to the quality of service and the accessibility of justice to the public".

The cost of legal aid, now £405 million a year, had gone up; but it "pales into insignificance" compared with other areas of public spending, such as defence at £18.173 billion; housing at £2.028 billion; education at £3.261 billion and social security at £23.741 billion.

The Government needed to look for value for money in the system but its search for efficiency savings seems to be very limited and in our view wholly wrongly directed at legal aid.

The Law Society had put forward a number of proposals aimed at greater efficiency in the courts and in legal services, nearly all of which had been either ignored or shelved by the Government, Mr Bradbeer said.

Those plans could lead to greater savings than those anticipated by the government's plans for legal aid and without the risks inherent in such changes, he said.

One reform proposed was in commitments to the crown court where as much as £1 million or even more might be saved. In many cases solicitors need not attend court. Where this happened, then "surely there is no need for the defendant to attend either", Mr Bradbeer said.

"At the moment the cost-

Lawyers and judges command little regard among children, according to a study to be published later this month (David Sapsed writes).

One child said the typical lawyer "lies, plays golf, loans money and sits around". Judges were said to give dancing lessons or "teach you things about Jesus".

The study, partly funded by the Government and carried out by Dr Rhona Flyn at Robert Gordon's Institute of Technology in Aberdeen, delves into how much a group of children, aged between six and 10, understands the law.

While the results provide some mixed views on the legal profession, the study also shows that children fully understand the role of the police and the importance of truth and may be more reliable witnesses than adults.

effectiveness of the change made in January 1987 (so that solicitors need not attend) is undermined by the continuing requirement for the defendant to be there."

Another reform could be made to the duty solicitor scheme whereby solicitors are on call day or night for suspects in police stations. There have been accusations that there is too much standing by, Mr Bradbeer said.

● The number of suspects who choose to remain silent while being questioned by detectives has increased enormously, Mr Peter Imbert, Metropolitan Police commissioner, told a weekend seminar organized by the Law Society in Oxford. He said a limited survey had shown that more than 20 per cent now exercised the right, compared with 4 per cent when a royal commission reported on the subject in 1979.

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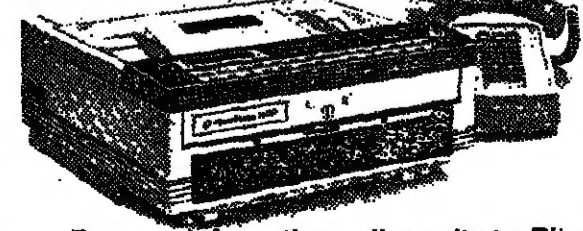
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Vasari painting is gallery's highlight

An Old Master gallery opens in west London tomorrow with an impressive collection of about fifteen newly discovered paintings.

It is the Walpole Gallery in Dover Street, run by the art historian and dealer, Mr Clovis Whitfield.

Top of a shopping list for museums throughout the world is a painting by Giorgio Vasari valued at around \$2 million. It shows trout fishermen bending to their task as they stand in midstream.

Vasari is most famous for his book, *Lives of the Artists*, published in 1550, in which he proposes a theory of progress in art, ranging from Giotto to Michelangelo.

But this huge (196cm x 162cm) work shows he was a great painter in his own right. Commissioned originally by the Grand Duke, Cosimo de Medici for his villa at Poggio a Caiano, it was later exported to Holland as a subject for a tapestry. Mr Whitfield and his team, which includes the Italian dealer Ferdinando Peretti, found it, dark with dirt, at a recent auction, and pieced its story together.

"Art historians don't yet know about it", Mr Whitfield said.

● Sotheby's New York was under siege on Saturday as the public poured in for the first day's preview of the Andy Warhol collection. It will be sold over 10 days from next Saturday.

SALEROOM

by Sarah Jane Checkland
Art Market Correspondent

Despite this upstaging, the printed and manuscript Americana sales went well on Saturday, with documents by Abraham Lincoln in demand. A draft letter of sympathy and support from him "to the army of the Potomac" fetched top price of \$236,500 from a private buyer, more than double its upper estimate.

The second highest lot, the Emancipation Proclamation of 1863, in which Lincoln committed himself to freeing the slaves, went to an East Coast private collector for \$190,500 (estimate \$175,000 to \$225,000). The sale, which included a copy of the United States Constitution (\$165,000 against an estimate of up to \$150,000) totalled \$1.3 million with 95 per cent sold.

Meanwhile, Japanese prints and works of art did well at Christie's New York, although a number of sculptures failed to find buyers. The sale totalled \$2.6 million (£1.4million) with 16 per cent unsold.

Japanese dealers were active. One, from Tokyo, spent \$154,000 (£81,481) on a set of three prints showing street walkers from the main cities of Japan painted by the nineteenth century artist, Chokyoai Eiri.



The 260E and 300E. But can you tell the difference?

No-one would suggest that buying a Mercedes-Benz is a decision you should rush or take lightly. Far from it. It's only when you take the time to consider the facts that a Mercedes-Benz seems such an obvious choice. Consider the 300E for example. Like all Mercedes-Benz cars it is not engineered to perform a few specifics superbly well but to perform every function superbly well. Avoiding extremes in any single area, in pursuit of the very highest competence overall. Few cars have the ability to strike the same balance between comfort, handling, performance, safety, reliability and re-sale value. The dilemma then, is when you look for a four door saloon, luxurious in its comfort, tenacious in its road-holding, reassuring in its safety and exhilarating in its performance, is not which car but which other Mercedes-Benz.

Introducing the 260E. It shares the identical aerodynamic body and the same power base as the 300E. The difference in horsepower and torque of the six cylinder engines is mainly attributable to their different displacement: 2962 cc 188 DIN/hp for the 300E versus 2599 cc 166 DIN/hp for the 260E.

They are power units designed to reconcile very high power and torque output with extreme smoothness and very quiet running in an engine as light and as compact as possible.

Although not exceptionally large engines by today's standards, they are still powerful enough to comfortably shift both cars to test track speeds of over 130 mph.

The engine block itself is a lightweight casting, deep-skirted and externally ribbed for enhanced rigidity. There are seven main bearings and to promote running smoothness, no fewer than twelve crankshaft counterweights.

The Mercedes-Benz 300E or 260E?

You have 1.3 seconds to make up your mind.

Engine aspiration is governed by an ingenious electro-mechanical fuel injection system. A mechanical fuel injection system ensures swift, responsive performance and robust dependability, whilst an advanced electronic unit fine tunes the engine by precisely monitoring engine speed, temperature and airflow. The fuel flow is continuously adjusted to achieve optimum efficiency and economy.

Both the 300E and 260E have four speed automatic transmissions as standard with a five speed manual gearbox as a no-cost option. The automatic transmission with its manual-style lever has an easy action stepped-gate with a sporty flavour of its own especially when hard throttle pressure automatically kicks it down for maximum acceleration.

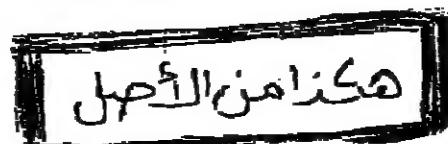
The Mercedes-Benz suspension system, with shock absorber struts at the front and the unique multi-link layout at the rear, gives phenomenal road-holding to cope with such powerful performance. Cornering ability, straight line stability and handling predictability can seem almost uncanny.

The ability to combine soul-stirring pleasures of high performance with hard-headed advantages of high mechanical efficiency is an exceptional feature of these cars. With the added reassurance of ABS braking as standard and energy absorbing front and rear crumple zones with the rigid passenger safety cell (invented by Mercedes-Benz in 1951) they stand far ahead of would be rivals.

But what separates them from each other? The 300E accelerates from 0 to 62 mph in 8.2 seconds and the 260E does it in 9.5 seconds (manufacturer's figures). The difference is 1.3 seconds precisely. By now, you should have made up your mind.



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WORLD ROUNDUP

10,000 march in Warsaw ghetto

Warsaw (Reuters) - Up to 10,000 people marched under opposition banners through the site of Warsaw's former Jewish ghetto yesterday in an illegal commemoration of the 45th anniversary of the uprising there.

The banned demonstration was the climax to ceremonies led by opposition figures who refused to take part in the official commemoration organized by Poland's communist authorities. Thousands of Warsaw residents ignored a police warning that the event was illegal and walked from the main ghetto monument to Umschlagplatz, where in 1942 and 1943 more than 300,000 Warsaw Jews were put on trains to the Nazi extermination camp at Treblinka.

US crime on increase

Washington - In 1987, for the third successive year, serious crime in the US rose in all parts of the country except the West. However, murder, rape and robberies all decreased (Official Bureau figures) figures issued at the weekend by the Federal Bureau of Investigation showed a 2 per cent rise in crime following an increase of 5 per cent in 1985 and 6 per cent in 1986.

More than two thirds of all serious crime reported to the FBI by local police falls into three categories, and all of these showed a rise - aggravated assaults up 2 per cent, larceny up 3 per cent and car theft up 5 per cent. However, the number of murders reported fell by 4 per cent and rapes by 1 per cent.

New Soviet flight fuel

Moscow - The Soviet Union claims to have opened a new chapter in aviation after the successful test flight last Friday of the first aircraft capable of using liquid hydrogen and liquefied natural gas as fuel (Christopher Walker writes).

Soviet scientists say that because only water and energy are required to liquify hydrogen, the new fuel, known as "cryogenic", is much safer for the environment than oil-based aviation fuels used by international airlines. Reporting the test flight of the experimental TU-155 aircraft, Tass said: "The replacement of oil-based fuel by the fuel based on natural gas will substantially expand the possibilities of passenger aviation in the Soviet Union and will decrease the harmful effect of aircraft on the atmosphere."

Contra 'realpolitik'

Managua - While most of the world watched baseball or went to the beach, a Contra-organized field talks with the Government here throughout the weekend on the terms of a settlement of the civil war (David Gollob writes).

The 40-member Contra group described its arrival in Managua as a "political triumph". However, the three-day peace conference appeared to arouse little public interest. Senior Adolfo Calero, a senior Contra leader, said: "This is realpolitik. I'm a realist". He said: "Our demands have not changed: peace in freedom. We are willing to do the utmost. However, it's not up to us. We have tried to liberate the Nicaraguan people. We have done it through armed struggle. We are ready to do it through political struggle."

Prison rioters give up

Paris - More than 250 prisoners gave themselves up yesterday and released two hostages they had taken after a night of rioting at Ensisheim prison in the Upper Rhine region of eastern France (Our Correspondent writes). Five ringleaders, all serving life sentences, instigated the mutiny on Saturday afternoon to protest against prison conditions. Armed with knives, they took hostage a religious visitor and a young warder.

Air inquiry extended

Washington (Reuters) - The US Government is to widen its safety investigation of Eastern Airlines, owned by Texas Air, to include Continental, the company's flagship airline, the Transportation Secretary, Mr James Burnley, said yesterday. He said the decision to investigate Continental was based on a review of Federal Aviation Administration files which revealed almost \$1 million in potential safety fines pending against the airline. An investigation of safety violations by Eastern was announced last week and so far 19 of its 200 passenger planes have been grounded.

Tape search for clues to Waite abductors

By Andrew McEwen
Diplomatic Correspondent

The Foreign Office will today start searching tape recordings it has just received of telephone conversations Mr Terry Waite conducted immediately before he disappeared in Beirut 15 months ago for clues to the identity of his kidnappers.

The recordings have been accepted as genuine both by Whitehall and by a member of Mr Waite's family. They last five hours and include calls that the archbishop made to Canterbury's special envoy in Beirut on his Beirut hotel phone in January, 1987. It is still not known who made the recordings and why. They were handed to a Sunday newspaper, which said it obtained them from two Lebanese men, who were too frightened to be identified.

One of the calls came from the British Consul in Beirut, who conducted part of his conversation in

somewhat ungrammatical Latin. Mr Frank Gallagher, who has since returned to work at the Foreign Office, apparently intended to warn Mr Waite of a potential new threat to his safety without making his own identity obvious to anyone who might be listening in - but then gave it away by naming himself. According to the Sunday Express, the conversation went as follows:

Mr Gallagher: Hello, good afternoon. Is that Terry Waite speaking?

Mr Waite: Speaking.

Mr Gallagher: Good afternoon to you. I've got a little message which I've got to pass on to you. It's a message from London. I want to be quite discreet and introduce myself in guarded terms. "L'esperance d'un latinisme" (Do you speak Latin?)

Mr Waite: Yes, I understand.

Mr Gallagher: Sum Consul.

Britannicus (I am the British Consul).

Mr Waite: Uh-huh... right.

Mr Gallagher: Nomien meum est Frank Gallagher. (My name is Frank Gallagher).

Mr Waite: Uh-huh.

Mr Gallagher: Aliqua sum consul in Beirut. (I am the consul in Beirut).

Mr Gallagher continued in English, saying the West Germans had arrested Mr Muhammad Hamadei, a Lebanese suspected of involvement in the hijacking of a TWA airliner in 1985. He implied the Foreign Office was worried that this could increase the dangers facing Mr Waite.

Whitehall sources confirmed yesterday that such a warning was given. Supporters of Mr Hamadei and his brother, Abbas, also held in West Germany on related charges, were active gathering forces to battle for their release. Mr

Waite disappeared on January 20 - three days after the kidnapping of Herr Rudolf Cordes, a West German manager, and a day before that of Herr Alfred Schmidt, an engineer. Herr Schmidt was released last September, but Herr Cordes is believed still to be in their hands.

No one has claimed responsibility for Mr Waite's disappearance. But if he is held by sympathizers of the Hamadei brothers, they could soon have reason to show their hand. The trial of Mr Abbas Hamadei on charges of abducting the two West Germans is due to reach a verdict tomorrow in Düsseldorf.

It is expected to be followed by Mr Muhammad Hamadei's trial in Frankfurt on murder and hijacking charges stemming from the TWA incident. If either brother is convicted, the supporters may put further pressure on Bonn to release them. Mr Waite would be their ultimate political card.

Last year, the sympathizers claimed responsibility for the kidnappings of the two West Germans and threatened to kill them if Mr Muhammad Hamadei were extradited to stand trial in the US. Bonn admitted that the threat influenced its decision to refuse an extradition request made by Washington. The admission was made in evidence given by Herr Wolfgang Schäuble, the Chancellery Minister, during Mr Abbas Hamadei's trial.

Since then, a further complication in efforts to bring Mr Muhammad Hamadei to trial has emerged. He claims to have been born in July, 1968, which would mean he was a minor at the time of the hijack. This conflicted with evidence from Mr Abbas Hamadei, who said that his brother was 23 or 24. A procedural wrangle over whether he should be tried in an adult or juvenile court remains to be resolved.

Leading article, page 17

14 die as Palestinians mourn Abu Jihad

By Our Foreign Staff

Mr Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian Liberation Organisation leader, arrived in Tunis yesterday for talks with his staff on the situation of his military commander and deputy, Mr Khalil al-Wazir, better known as Abu Jihad.

And in Jerusalem, Arab sources said that the Palestinian death toll from Saturday's violent protests in the occupied territories after the death of Abu Jihad had risen to 14. It was the highest toll in a single day since Palestinian protests against Israeli occupation erupted in early December.

The Army has imposed a curfew on 15 refugee camps in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, where the worst protests erupted, and many areas were closed to reporters.

The towns of Nablus and Anabta in the northern West Bank were also sealed off, while further north, in Tulkarm, troops shot and wounded two Palestinians as they tried to attack two soldiers with an axe.

Palestinians mourned the death of Abu Jihad yesterday by singing, marching, and a general strike. Israeli troops wounded eight Arabs in clashes in the occupied territories, hospital officials said.

In the Gaza Strip, where Abu Jihad's relatives live, soldiers fired on teenagers who blocked roads with burning tires and threw stones at the troops. Six youths were wounded, according to officials at Gaza's Shifta hospital.

Israel yesterday continued to maintain a coy silence on the question of who was behind the assassination.

"I heard about it on the radio," was all the Prime Minister, Mr Yitzhak Shamir,

would reply to the question of one of his ministers at yesterday's cabinet meeting.

Israeli commentators have expressed deep concern over the assassination as the result of inter-Arab rivalry. The former chief of military intelligence, General Yehoshua Sagor, emphasized Abu Jihad's long-standing feud with the Syrians who, he said, had an old score to settle.

Dr Ariel Mazar, an expert on terrorism at Tel Aviv University's Jaffa Centre for Strategic Studies, said the killing was probably ordered

Kuwaiti (Reuters). A hostage

released eight days ago has disappeared. The family of Mr Fadil Leiri, aged 32, think he may be under investigation, but their efforts to learn about his fate have produced no official answers.

The Foreign Ministry has confirmed that Mr Leiri is in Kuwait, but refused questions to the Interior Ministry, which would not comment.

By Mr Arafat who, he claimed, had recently been at odds with Abu Jihad. "I don't know for sure who was behind the killing," he told Israeli Radio, "but if I had to venture a guess, I would say Arafat - he's the prime suspect."

But the press and the public at large appear to have little doubt who they think was behind the operation.

"Israel has eliminated Abu Jihad," roared the huge headline in the mass-circulation Hadashot tabloid. Only closer reading of a secondary headline indicated that this was not a statement of fact, but a PLO claim.

Other papers were less sensational but all drew close attention to the remarkable

similarity between the weekend operation in Tunis and Israel's 1973 commando raid in Beirut, when three top PLO leaders were killed.

"Even the Israeli Radio news-caster made a Freudian slip in reporting Mr Shamir's comments in Cabinet. 'I heard about (the assassination) on the telephone,' she quoted the Prime Minister as saying, only to correct herself a few minutes later."

In the occupied territories, Jewish settlers and Palestinians alike were convinced Israel had assassinated Abu Jihad.

"I am shocked to hear that Israel, in fighting terror, is using all the means available to it," said Mr Pinhas Wallerstein, head of the Binyamin Regional Council in the West Bank.

Whether or not Israel was in fact behind the assassination, analysts here were yesterday suggesting that Israel had ample motive to kill Abu Jihad.

First, it has been pointed out, Abu Jihad has been behind some of the bloodiest attacks committed in Israel - including last month's attack on a bus in the Negev, in which three workers at the country's atomic research facility in Dimona were killed.

Second, there has been growing concern at what many perceive here as the diminishing deterrent image of the Israeli Army in the eyes of the Palestinians as it fails to snuff out the uprising in the occupied territories. A brilliant commando operation against a leading PLO target thousands of miles away might be expected to do much to restore the image and at the same time demoralize the Palestinians in the occupied territories.



West Bank Arabs mourning Abu Jihad carry wreaths and an Arafat picture through Nablus.

Third, in some Israeli circles there is little doubt that the killing of Abu Jihad will make it impossible for Mr Arafat to renounce terror and recognize UN Security Council Resolution 242. Mr Arafat was apparently under some pressure to revise his position

on both these issues during his visit to Moscow earlier this month, although there is a consensus in Jerusalem against any dealings with the PLO.

Just why Israel should have chosen to remain so coy about what is widely perceived here as a brilliantly conceived and executed operation against a master terrorist remains something of a mystery.

Murder of leading PLO man robs peace-seekers of pragmatist

By Robert Fisk

If the Israelis had wished to proscribe both the architect of the current Palestinian uprising and the one man who might have been able to control Palestinian radicals at a future peace conference, they could have done no better than to have killed Abu Jihad. As a guerrilla leader, he was both cunning and pragmatic; as a military administrator, he was the only Palestine Liberation Organisation leader whose influence over his supporters was both intimate and almost total.

In his last days he was planning what he called the "second stage" of the Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza, arranging - as he disclosed in a handwritten question-and-answer interview with a Kuwaiti newspaper last week - for armed attack on "selected Israeli

military targets". He was thinking, it seemed, of just the sort of selective assassination against Israeli Army officers that the PLO believes the Israelis carried out against him.

Those Palestinians who knew Abu Jihad did not believe the version of events being put about in Israel: that he may have been the victim of inter-PLO battles. Fratricide struggle there has often been within the PLO - Abu Jihad had three times escaped attempts on his life, twice in Lebanon - but the timing, the target, the method of operation have all suggested to the PLO that the joint founder of the Fatah guerrilla movement was murdered by the nation upon which he himself declared war in 1965.

The PLO's enemies deride the description of any Palestinian guerrilla as a "moderate" yet Khalil Wazir

- which was Abu Jihad's real name - loyally supported Mr Yasser Arafat's concept of an independent Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza, and Mr Arafat's intimation (unstated in official form) that Israel should be recognized within its international boundaries.

If a new Palestine state had come into being in his lifetime, it would have been Abu Jihad's task to turn his guns against his own people if necessary to prevent them moving into the coastal strip of 1948 Palestine.

Even when the Syrians organized a dissident faction within the PLO to eliminate Mr Arafat in 1983, Abu Jihad clung on in his office in Damascus, driving into Lebanon at night to talk with his guerrillas. One rain-soaked evening, he had travelled down to a Palestinian position in the southern Bekaa scarcely



Abu Jihad: Planning "second stage" of Arab protests.

two miles from the front line which the Israelis had reached in their invasion of the previous year. He had driven his own car, a Kalashnikov rifle on the seat beside him, and stopped at every outpost to

embrace his unshaven, grubby faced young guerrillas.

In a shabby, breeze-block bungalow with a single naked bulb dangling from the ceiling, he dutifully introduced me to each guerrilla - he knew all their names and then lectured them on the need for loyalty. "Ask whatever you like - ask about anything to do with the rebellion," he told them. "Don't be afraid, and remember, you are not terrorists (moharabin) - you are soldiers, and you must behave like soldiers."

He travelled on that night, to First Aid posts, to doctors' homes, to water-logged gunpits, saluted by Syrian troops on the checkpoints, aware that his absence would have precipitated most of his forces in the Bekaa into the hands of Damascus. He described the PLO rebel leader, Abu Saleh, as "misguided" rather than a traitor, although

Abu Saleh's men eventually drove Mr Arafat's and Abu Jihad's guerrillas out of Lebanon.

I saw him next on the concrete mole at the northern harbour at the Lebanese city of Tripoli waiting for the Greek cruise ships which would take his surrounded men into exile. He was fatter, than he had been a few months earlier, his face flabby and unhealthy, injured to defeat at the hands of fellow Arabs. What did he think now of his revolution, I asked him.

He had shrugged, staring all the time out to sea at the white hulled boat that would take him and his men to safety: "It is another exodus," he said. The irony clearly hurt him. In the end, the Syrians flung him out of Damascus - much as he was later ejected from Amman when Mr Arafat's flirtation with King Husain of Jordan ended in 1986 - and

his guerrillas spent most of their energies fighting Arabs rather than Israelis.

The Kuwaiti newspaper Al-Anbar that carried Abu Jihad's last interview yesterday claimed that his killers photographed documents on his desk before they left his villa for the beach. Among the papers may have been his own proofs for the newspaper included a promise to the Palestinians of the West Bank and Gaza that the "second stage" of their uprising would ease the burdens imposed upon them by the Israeli Army.

There would be, he wrote, "commando operations against Israeli military targets that will shore up the morale of our people"; the targets would be "the tools of extremely brutal oppression." In other words, there would be assassinations, and most

Palestinian operations of that kind - as Abu Jihad knew but did not say - also involved the killing of civilians.

Abu Jihad, of course, lived by the sword and in the Middle East those who do so very occasionally die along with the innocent. Mr Arafat has now seen the name of his lifelong and trusted friend added to the list of "martyrs" which the Palestinian revolution is supposed to enshrine. Abu Jihad's greatest contribution to that revolution, however, would have been to keep it in check after a political settlement. Another of the rivets of that potential future piece has thus been cut away.

Those Israelis who believe that a deal will eventually have to be done with the Palestinian leadership now have one fewer pragmatist to deal with; which means that both sides have lost.

Britain battling to modify 1992 vision

After initial doubt and scepticism, Britain is to play a full part in the single European market of 1992 - provided controversial EEC schemes, such as VAT harmonization, are altered or shelved.

As Britain's 1992 campaign gets under way today, the emerging view is that the original plan for a "Europe without frontiers", by Lord Cockfield, the Commissioner for the Internal Market, must be modified to meet UK concerns.

The VAT issue, which comes to a head today, highlights a hidden struggle between Mrs Thatcher and the more "visionary" of Brussels's senior Eurocrats over the shape of the post-1992 Community. And on the VAT question, at least, Britain seems to be winning.

The UK's 1992 campaign, designed to alert British businessmen and consumers to the coming challenge of cross-frontier competition, is launched today by Mrs Thatcher and Lord Young, the Trade and Industry Secretary, at Lancaster House. Simultaneously, Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and senior Treasury officials will be at a meeting of EEC finance ministers in Luxembourg with the aim of quickly

putting paid to Community moves to end VAT zero rating in Britain of basic products such as food and fuel.

The EEC Finance Council, chaired by Herr Gerhard Stoltenberg, the West German Finance Minister, has a crowded agenda. This includes the implications for the EEC of the attempt by the Group of Seven in Washington last week to keep exchange rates under control.

Herr Stoltenberg - at least in private - will renew his plea to Mr Lawson to persuade Mrs Thatcher that sterling should be a full member of the European Monetary System by 1992.

But for British officials, the most important item on the Luxembourg agenda is the interim report of the EEC's economic and monetary committee. Nothing could sound less gripping. But the report is the culmination of a behind-the-scenes campaign by Britain to swing Community opinion against the VAT proposals put forward by Lord Cockfield.

When he produced his blueprint for 1992 three years ago, many British officials were sceptical and failed to take the plan seriously. But it has since been approved by EEC summits, with the 1992 date

written into the Treaty of Rome. In response to criticism, much of it from the UK, Lord Cockfield nowadays talks of "approximation" rather than harmonization, with VAT rates falling into two broad bands, one between 14 and 20 per cent and another between 4 and 9 per cent for basic items.

But even this is regarded by Downing Street, the Treasury

Brussels View

By Richard Owen

and the Department of Trade and Industry alike as completely unnecessary - and politically explosive.

Lord Cockfield's argument that VAT differentials will distort trade in a frontier-free market has met with scepticism and scorn in London financial circles.

The EEC monetary committee, charged with reporting on the likely impact of the Cockfield plan, is chaired by Sir Geoffrey Litterer, the Permanent Secretary to the Treasury and a close adviser of the Chancellor.

Sir Geoffrey has had little difficulty in persuading finance officials of other European countries that the VAT

proposals are not on. France has drawn up its own report on the likely cost to the French economy. Spain and Portugal would have to increase their indirect taxation while the Danes and Italians would have to implement cuts.

Officials said yesterday that Sir Geoffrey's monetary committee can only make an interim report to finance ministers today, because the Commission has yet to come up with detailed costings of the 1992 programme.

But the Litterer report seems likely to stop the Cockfield plan in its tracks by arguing that while border costs must be reduced to ease the flow of goods across frontiers, there is no case for VAT harmonization. If distortions do arise after 1992, it says, market forces will oblige governments to make adjustments.

The Commission has not yet lost the VAT battle. It has an ally in West Germany, which holds the presidency of the Council of Ministers. Only last week, Bonn declared its determination to press ahead with several 1992 measures, including VAT harmonization, before it hands over the presidency in July.

But time is short. Finance ministers will give further consideration to the Litterer

Red Brigades shoot advisor at heart of De Mita's plans

From Roger Boyes, Rome

The Italian Red Brigades have hit at the heart of the political establishment by murdering a close adviser of the new Prime Minister, Signor Ciriaco De Mita, only days before Signor De Mita was due to be confirmed in office by Parliament.

The killing on Saturday of Professor Roberto Ruffilli, aged 51, a member of the Senate and a leading strategist of the Christian Democratic Party, comes hard on the heels of the bombing by a Japanese and Middle Eastern group of a United States club in Naples, and raises the fear that Italy is again heading for a period of protracted terrorism.

The danger may be more apparent than real, but the three shots pumped into the head of Professor Ruffilli at least signal the continuing efficiency of the Red Brigades.

The professor of modern history was one of the key advisers to the new Prime Minister on institutional reform. It is this issue - how to stop the incessant government crises and the collapse of coalitions - that will decide the long-term stability of Ital-

ian politics. The target was thus carefully chosen.

The telephone communiqué announcing the crime ("We have carried out an attack on the heart of the State") was transmitted by the Party of Communist Combat-

ants, which is the second generation of the Red Brigades who dominated terrorism in the 1970s.

Gunned down in the town of Forlì, Professor Ruffilli's sin, apparently, was to make concrete plans for stabilizing Italian politics. Such plans do

not serve the purposes of terrorists. But the murder has virtually destroyed the prospects of a new government declaring an amnesty for imprisoned Red Brigades terrorists who have dissociated themselves from violence.

The conspiracy theory is that this was the point of the weekend attack - the Red Brigades on the run are not enthusiastic about the release of their former comrades.

Meanwhile, Italian police now believe that a Japanese woman, dubbed the Queen of Terror, planned the deadly bomb attack on the US servicemen's club in Naples last week.

The head of Diogo counter-intelligence in Naples, Dr Romano Argento, said the woman, identified as Fusako Shingobu, was seen with the main suspect, Junzo Okudaira, eight hours before the car bomb was placed. Five people were killed and 20 injured in the blast.

The Italians believe that the two Japanese - both veterans of several bomb and rocket attacks - were working with Lebanese Shia Muslims.



Professor Ruffilli: Planning stability for Italian politics.

Final polls put Mitterrand well ahead

From Our Correspondent, Paris

With one week to go before the first round of voting in France's presidential elections, the last two opinion polls gave President Mitterrand a 15-point lead at the weekend over his nearest rival, M Jacques Chirac, the Prime Minister, and a 19-point lead over the other right-wing candidate, M Raymond Barre.

According to a poll in the weekly *Le Point* magazine, which came out on Saturday, two days before the deadline for publication of opinion polls, M Mitterrand will receive 37 per cent of the vote next Sunday over M Chirac's 22 per cent and M Barre's 18 per cent. The *Liberation* newspaper poll, also published on Saturday, gave each candidate one percentage point more, but kept the ratio between them the same.

Electioneering among all the nine candidates will intensify this week, not only to try to narrow the gap between one another but also in preparation for the second round run-off vote on May 8.

President Mitterrand is now definitely on the campaign trail and seems to be enjoying it, although energetic campaigning by M Chirac has closed the gap between them.

Gone is the sphinx-like smile of a president who considered himself above the political mêlée. In its place is a forceful approach designed to rebuff M Chirac's allegations that at 71 he is too old for the

job, and is basing his programme and the country's political future on "wait and see" tactics. His Socialist Party, initially instructed to play a supporting role, is also out there and fighting.

M Chirac's battle is two-edged. With his full neo-Gaullist RPR party machine behind him, he will be fighting to close the gap with M Mitterrand further this week and prove himself the most credible of the right-wing leaders.

The tide against M Barre, the self-styled tortoise to M Chirac's hare, is beginning to turn. In the latest opinion polls he has gained a couple of points instead of losing more. M Barre has always maintained that the public would see the value of his solid-citizen approach over the American-style campaigns of the other two, but it is unlikely that he could draw even with M Chirac before the end of the week.

To have a chance of winning the second round, M Chirac must win over not only the Barre vote but also that of M Jean-Marie Le Pen's National Front. He must try to satisfy both the centre right and the extreme right, and it is by no means certain that he can do so.

M Le Pen, with 10 per cent in the latest polls, is in the position he likes best—that of a disturbing influence. While taking only occasional snipes at M Mitterrand and M Barre,



President Mitterrand receiving the helping hand of supporters in Marseille in southern France at the weekend as campaigning intensifies for voting in next Sunday's first round of the presidential election.

he continues to attack M Chirac.

cent Communist vote counts for little. The two extremes, the Communists and the National Front, held rallies in Marseille at the weekend. Once again M Le Pen appeared to have had the advantage, for while it poured down on the Communist candidate,

M Andre Lajoie, the sun was out for M Le Pen, who called this meeting the culmination of his campaign. M Mitterrand received the best tribute to the fact that he is not yet over the hill when, between a porn show and a press conference in Lyons, the Italian

Radical Party deputy Ms Ilona Staller, the stripper "Ciccolina", said that she loved men who were "beautiful inside" and declared her support for him. In vain the local French Radical Party representative tried to point out that they, in fact, supported M Barre.

Diouf battles political and economic ills

From Susan MacDonald, Dakar

Pomp and ceremony do not have a place in the everyday routine of President Diouf of Senegal. While some other African heads of state are surrounded by courtiers and even television cameras when talking to the press, meeting Mr Diouf for his first exclusive newspaper interview since he won a second five-year term in February and the riots that followed is a simple matter of being ushered into his office.

There the President—a tall, 6 ft 6 in man with a courtly bearing—rises from his desk, suggesting the more comfortable armchairs on the other side of the room for a one-to-one chat.

Two years ago Mr Diouf was riding on the crest of a wave. His one-year term as

● I am a democrat right to my soul, but there is a limit ●

chairman of the Organization of African Unity had confirmed him as an African president of international stature. He was known for his straightforward approach to conflicts and especially his success in organizing the special United Nations conference on African debt.

But even at that time there were warnings that he was not paying sufficient attention to problems back home, where his IMF-backed economic austerity programme was having serious social repercussions in an already poor country.

The President is aged 52 but the grey hairs have multiplied as those problems have worsened. Some say he has clamped down too hard since the February unrest. The state of emergency, which includes a nightly curfew and the banning of all public demonstrations, goes against the grain for a people who have always spoken their minds, and plays into the hands of the imprisoned opposition leaders who can portray themselves as martyrs.

But he is adamant that the measures are necessary. "People must understand that democracy is not anarchy," he said, referring to the rioting in Dakar the day after the elections. "I am a democrat right to my soul, but there is a limit. If I don't take action now there could be bloodshed the next time. I do this today so that tomorrow it will not happen again."

The chief opposition leader, Mr Abdoulaye Wade, and other opposition figures are not in prison for political reasons but because they broke the law, he said. The personal animosity between the President and Mr Wade is well known. "There are so many times when I could have put him in prison and have not done so—but this time he has gone too far," Mr Diouf said, referring to the charges that Mr Wade incited the rioting by criticizing the President and his accusations of electoral fraud.

"Mr Wade will come to trial as soon as possible. I am not going to pardon him. It is said that if I don't he will become a martyr, but justice must take its course," he said. No date

has been set for the trial. Meanwhile talks continue between students, on strike since January over facilities and teaching standards, and the new Education Minister. "Sometimes a new face at a Ministry helps to change the atmosphere. I don't want the school year wasted and hope to avoid it, but if there is no agreement then the students must face the consequences," the President said.

Mr Diouf agreed that the IMF and World Bank should now rethink their strictly economic solutions for Senegal and other African countries. "I should say they should be rethinking," he said. "If Mr Wade was able to make his demagogic attacks and touch a part of the population during the campaign, it was because I had the courage to apply the austerity programme vital to our country, but for which there must be sufficient social support."

He spoke of cuts in the agricultural and industrial sectors which have put thousands out of work, the streamlining in education which has backfired, and falling raw material prices. "Don't talk to me about world groundnut prices—it is a disaster for us," he said, putting his hands to his head. "We are told we must have growth, but it is difficult to have austerity and growth at the same time."

To those in Europe who

● It is hard to have austerity and growth at the same time ●

believe Africa has become a lost cause, developing politically but unable to create its own economic momentum since independence, he said: "We have been let down by the international donors. We gave precise figures as to what we were prepared to spend to streamline our economies and this was matched with international promises to invest for growth. We have made our austerity sacrifices and the ground has been prepared, but the international promises of help have not been kept."

The President is aware that he must continue to juggle seemingly insoluble problems and break through the official party propaganda machinery around him if he is to get his message through to the people. Indeed, his survival over the next five years depends on it.



President Diouf: Defends jailing the opposition.

Athens and Tirana sign trade accord

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Albania and Greece yesterday signed their first postwar trade agreement aimed at encouraging the flow of goods and services at local level along their rugged 154-mile mutual border.

For Albania, a hardline communist state, this was a significant step away from the isolation imposed about three decades ago after ideological rifts with Moscow and Peking.

The agreement was signed by the Albanian and Greek Foreign Ministers, Mr Reis Malile and Mr Karolos Papoulias, in the town of Ioannina, just south of the border. It marked the end of a three-day official visit to Greece by Mr Malile, the first such visit by an Albanian Foreign Minister since the Second World War. Mr Papoulias was in Albania last November at the head of a Greek ministerial delegation. An exchange of visits by the two Prime Ministers is due soon.

After two days of talks, Mr Malile and Mr Papoulias spent an informal weekend on Corfu, the north-eastern tip of which is separated from Albania by a narrow waterway. The two nations have already agreed to establish a ferry link between the island and the Albanian port of Sarande, enabling the thousands of British tourists holidaying on Corfu to have a glimpse of Albania.

The Greek Government is anxious to open up more access routes between the two countries in the hope that

security-conscious Albania will ease restrictions on contact between the 200,000-strong Greek minority and their relatives in Greece.

However, the Albanians are still moving with extreme caution. Commercial transactions between the two countries are improving, but closer economic co-operation is inhibited by Albania's constitutional ban on foreign investments or loans.

Nonetheless, the nature of Greek-Albanian relations has changed in a "historically significant" way, according to Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Greek Prime Minister. After a meeting with the Albanian Foreign Minister on Friday he announced he had accepted an invitation to visit Tirana in the next two months.

The Greek leader takes much of the credit for the groundwork that led to this improvement. He renounced all Greek territorial claims on Albania and last August terminated the theoretical state of war existing between the two countries since the Italians used Albania for their attack on Greece in 1940.

The Papandreu Government has been severely criticized for making these concessions without securing guarantees for the respect for the human rights of Albania's Greek minority. Greek leaders took advantage of the Albanian Foreign Minister's visit to express their "continuing and unflagging concern for the well-being of the Greek minority."

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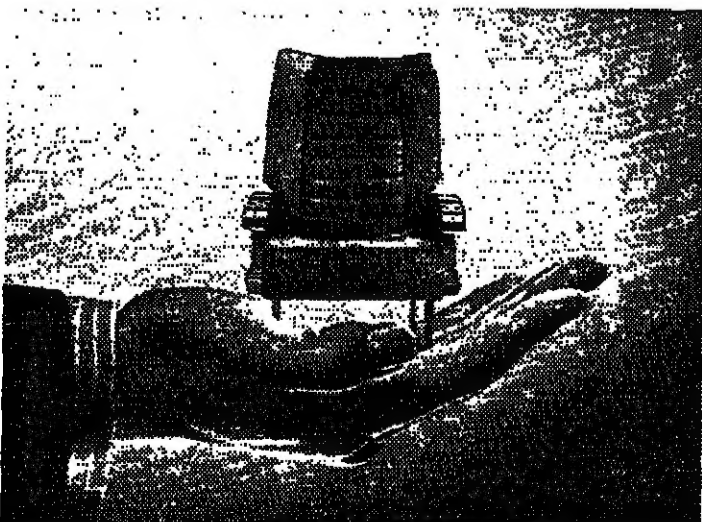
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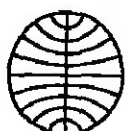
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Cattle rustlers from Sudan slaughter 190 Kenya villagers

From Our Correspondent, Nairobi

Cattle rustlers from southern Sudan slaughtered more than 190 men, women and children in a raid into north-western Kenya, officials said yesterday. The attack happened west of Lokichokio, a small town close to the Sudanese border.

It is the worst such incident for many years, but because the Turkana tribe's homesteads are so remote news of the attack last Wednesday only reached here at the weekend.

Local Kenyan troops and police killed 20 of the raiders. Another 20 were killed by security forces pursuing them as they attempted to drive thousands of cattle, sheep and goats towards the border. Kenyan security forces used light aircraft to stop the raid, understood to have been carried out by Toposa and Dongiro tribesmen from Western Equatoria. The southern Sudanese province is controlled by Sudanese People's Liberation Army rebels.

By the time Kenyan security forces reached some of the more remote homesteads, the sky was black with vultures, and hyenas had feasted on the corpses, leaving only bones and skulls, according to a report in Kenya's *Sunday Nation* newspaper.

The war between the rebels from the mainly Christian and animist south of Sudan and

the northern, Muslim-backed Government in Khartoum has given tribesmen access to automatic weapons, adding a lethal aspect to cattle rustling in the area.

The border, and the country around it, is mostly unmapped and unpatrolled. The tribes largely ignore the frontier in centuries-old competition for grazing land. Even the two Governments pay little attention to it. Lokichokio, officially the only Kenyan Customs and border post on the border, is 20 miles from the nearest point on the political boundary and even further from most of the administrative boundary, which places in a large area of Sudanese territory, known as the Elemi triangle, under Kenyan control.

The inter-tribal competition has intensified because of a population increase and the encroachment of the desert in already arid territory. Only last month armed Somali rustlers hacked 15 Boran tribesmen to death and stole 2,500 goats in north-eastern Kenya in what was then considered the worst such incident for years.

Members of a crack paramilitary police force, the General Service Unit, have been sent to Lokichokio to help round up the raiders and stolen livestock. It is understood that most of the animals

have already been recovered, but the raiders are now likely to have returned to their bases across the border.

Kenya is sympathetic to the Sudanese rebels' cause, allowing movement of supplies and personnel across the border and offering to mediate between the rebels and Khartoum. After last week's events, however, Kenya will expect the rebels to exert much more discipline.

Mr Hans Luytenburger, a Nairobi-based official of the International Committee of the Red Cross, said 31 people wounded in the raid had been treated at the relief agency's field hospital in Lokichokio.

The *Sunday Nation* quoted the Rift Valley Provincial Commissioner, Mr Muhammad Yusuf Haji, as saying that about 400 raiders armed with automatic and semi-automatic weapons were involved. They had killed men, women and children indiscriminately and left their bodies for vultures and hyenas.

Sudan's envoy to Kenya, Ambassador Omar el-Sheikh, said the raiders may have been connected with the Sudanese rebels. "It appears that this is the first time we have had such a raid, at least of such a magnitude," he said, noting that there had only been minor skirmishes between the Sudanese Toposa tribe and the Turkana in the past.

Hail of rocks greets Korean candidate



Mr Lee Young Il, left, a South Korean ruling party candidate, protecting himself and a colleague with a steel folding chair during a parliamentary election campaign rally in Kwangju. Several people were injured as youths backing a candidate from the opposition Peace and Democracy Party began stoning Mr Lee and his supporters (AFP reports).

Rival campaign workers were also

involved in the clash on Saturday. The incident began when Mr Lee, a Democratic Justice Party candidate, spoke while followers of the opposition were carrying their candidate shoulder-high after he had addressed a joint rally, witnesses said.

Elsewhere, rallies held in 116 of South Korea's 224 constituencies were generally peaceful, officials said. President Roh's party is expected to triumph over a

divided opposition in the National Assembly elections on April 26.

© TOKYO: A South Korean college professor has defected to the North, the North Korean Central News Agency said at the weekend (Reuters reports).

The agency, monitored here, identified the defector as Li U Gap, aged 52, an associate professor of the Kumsan Business College. He arrived in Pyongyang last Friday.

Burmese Army hits opium refineries

Bangkok (AFP) — The Burmese Army has captured a series of opium refineries and military camps belonging to ethnic and communist insurgents in an anti-gaolies drive in the Golden Triangle, Rangoon radio said.

The broadcast said the Government had launched an offensive on March 17 against ethnic Wa insurgents, capturing seven camps and opium refineries. Troops also overran camps and opium refineries belonging to the Burmese Communist Party. Government casualties were put at 27 dead, while 57 Wa insurgents were killed.

Rome strike

Rome (Reuters) — Rome's two airports were paralyzed by a 12-hour air traffic controllers' strike yesterday.

Boat rescue

San Juan (AFP) — A boat which drifted for 10 days has been towed by a US Coast Guard cutter to the Puerto Rican capital. All 35 people on board were reported to be in relatively good condition.

Ice deaths

Moscow (Reuters) — At least five fishermen died in the Baltic republic of Latvia while fishing through ice when it started to melt.

Air crashes

Sydney (Reuters) — Six people died in two air crashes, one involving a helicopter in western Sydney and the other a light plane in Brisbane.

Reform in China

Zhao fights on for fast change

By a Correspondent

The official Peking line on the latest session of the Chinese Parliament, the National People's Congress, this month was that it was the most democratic ever.

But students in the capital rejected the party's version of events and, enraged particularly by what they saw as key failures in education policy, protested against "formalistic democracy" — all the trappings of free debate without the substance.

There were no shocks among the party appointments announced, most of which will strengthen the reformist position of Mr Deng Xiaoping and Mr Zhao Ziyang. But what was surprising was the mass of detail which found its way out of China on how many votes were cast against various leaders, though there was only one candidate per post.

Mr Wang Zhen, the most conservative candidate, pre-

Students reject party claim of greater democracy

dictably received the greatest number of votes against, some 212 votes and 77 abstentions out of nearly 3,000 in his election as Vice-President. But the 25 votes cast against Mr Deng for another term as head of the Central Military Commission was not anticipated by many observers.

However, his reform programme did not fare badly. The broad aims of his reforms were made clear at the party congress last October and Mr Li Peng's government work report delivered at the beginning of the National People's Congress (NPC) made no departures from the basic thrust of Mr Zhao's outline.

Recently, there has been much talk of conflict between Mr Zhao and Mr Li, the new Prime Minister, played down by the former Foreign Minister, Mr Wu Xueqian, on a recent visit to Britain as nothing more than family squabbling.

When Mr Zhao spoke at the Central Committee meeting the week before the NPC opened and unveiled much of what Mr Li would say in his work report at the congress, it was seen as a most successful put-down to Mr Li.

Mr Zhao is clearly a reformer, while Mr Li is more "conservative". In his work report at the beginning of the

NPC, Mr Li proposed to carry through much of the agenda set by Mr Zhao and Mr Deng. But there are differences of emphasis on economic reform. At the Central Committee, Mr Zhao laid stress on the need for fast changes. But Mr Li is more cautious and concerned by such side-effects of reforms as inflation. He stresses stability where Mr Zhao is prepared to take risks.

In the press conference at the end of the NPC, Mr Li claimed that reform and stability were parts of one entity and not incompatible.

Economic and structural reform were intended to take centre stage at the NPC but three other issues — Tibet, the development of the interior, and education spending — introduced unplanned elements to the proceedings.

First came the Panchen Lama's remarks on Tibet. He called for tolerance, and attacked those who wanted a hard-line clampdown after last autumn's riots in Lhasa.

He had said all this before, but this time it came hot on the heels of Mr Li's statement on the government work report that anyone who impaired the "unity of the motherland" should be punished severely. Mr Li's revised work report, made public at the end of the NPC meeting, introduced some concessions on this emphasis on the need to uphold the rights and development of minorities.

Then deputies from inland provinces began to attack one of the pillars of the Deng

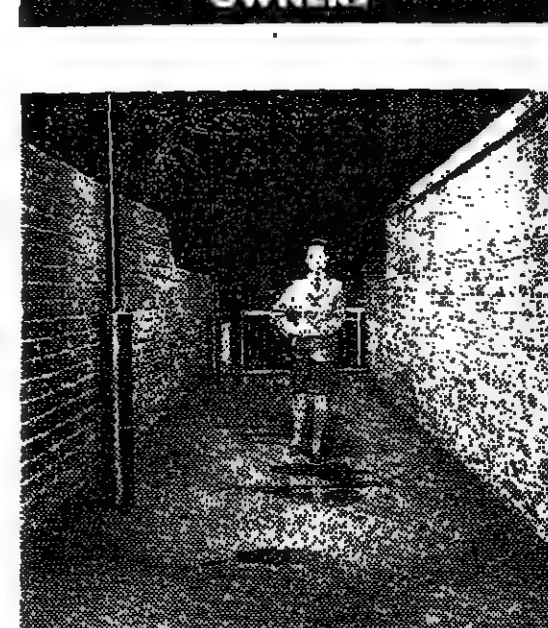
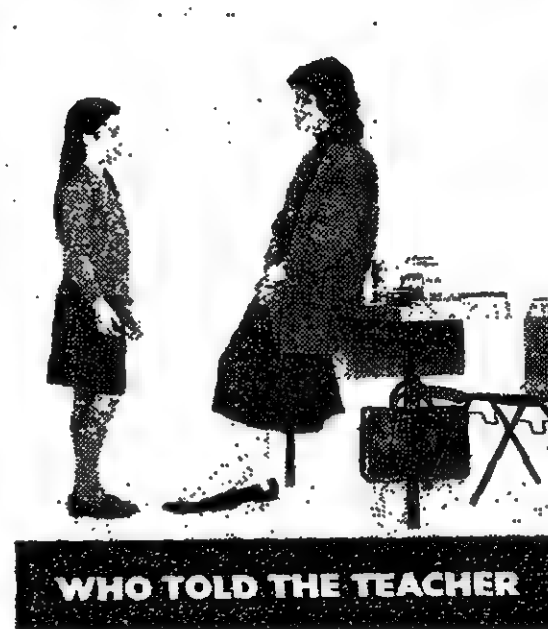
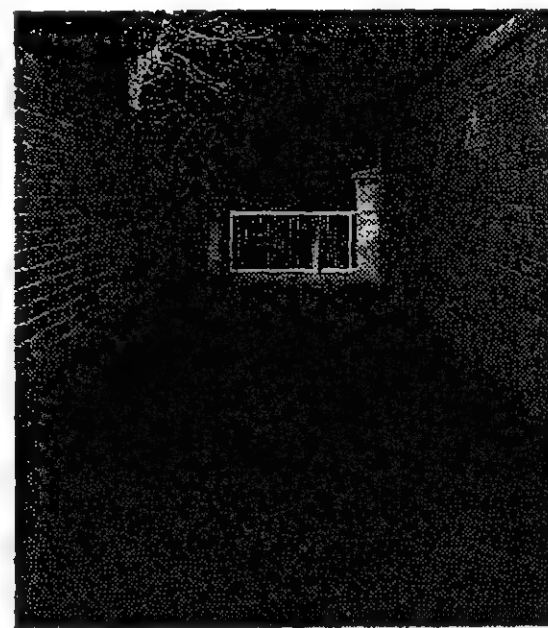
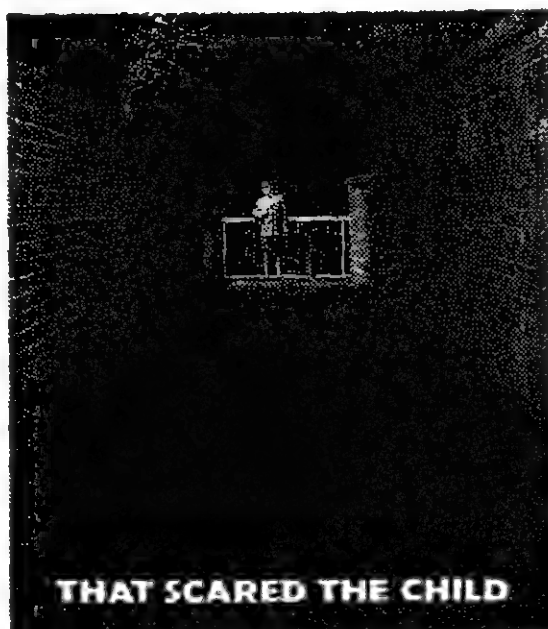
Cautious Mr Li is concerned by the threat of inflation

reform programme. At the same time that the establishment of the biggest and most advanced special economic zone, Hainan Island, was up for approval, they questioned the Deng-Zhao theory that rapid coastal development would benefit their provinces by wealth trickling inland.

Deputies claimed that this was not happening and that they were not prepared to tolerate what they saw as neglect of their interests. Some called for special economic zones in the interior. More realistically, many called for economic development policies tailored specifically to the needs of the interior. Little notice seems to have been taken of this by the policy-makers.

What really aroused the ire of Peking university students was education policy. Mr Zhao and Mr Li have proposed that teachers and schools should solve their own funding problems by becoming entrepreneurial.

Deputies have made their opposition to the proposals clear, while university students staged a sit-in in Peking's Tiananmen Square, pasted up protest posters, and even suggested sarcastically that they would offer shoe-shines to NPC members — at a price. Mr Li could only say that the deputies' suggestions would be taken note of.



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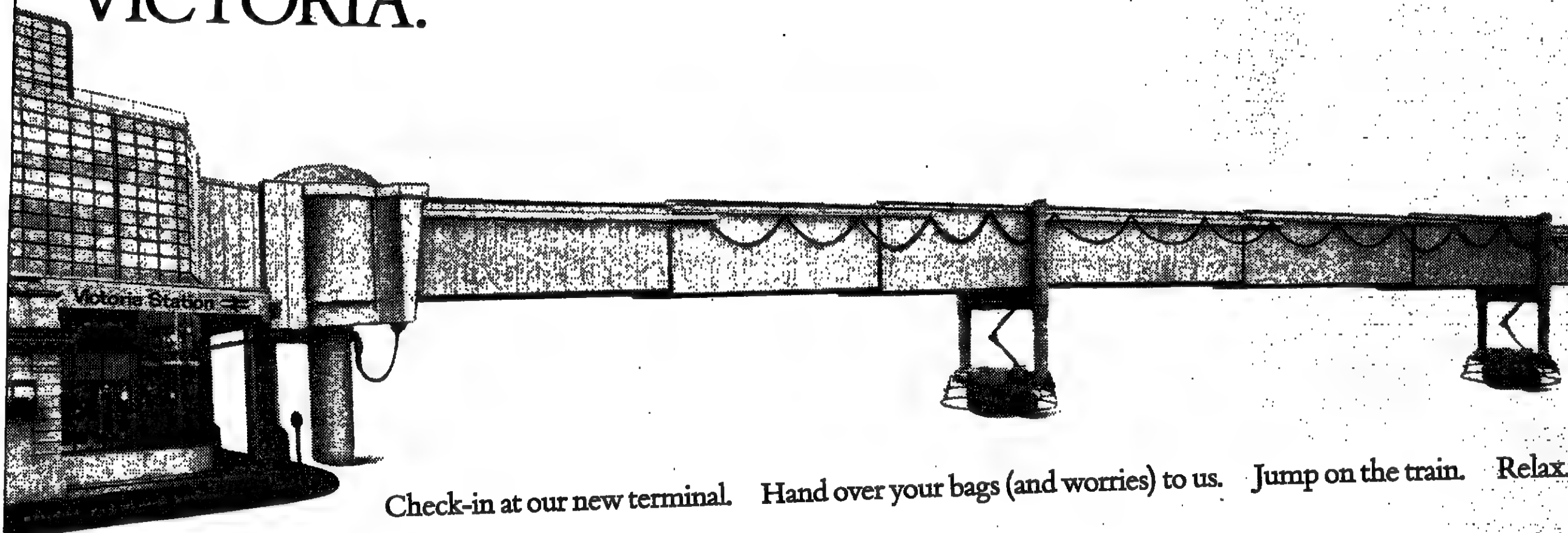
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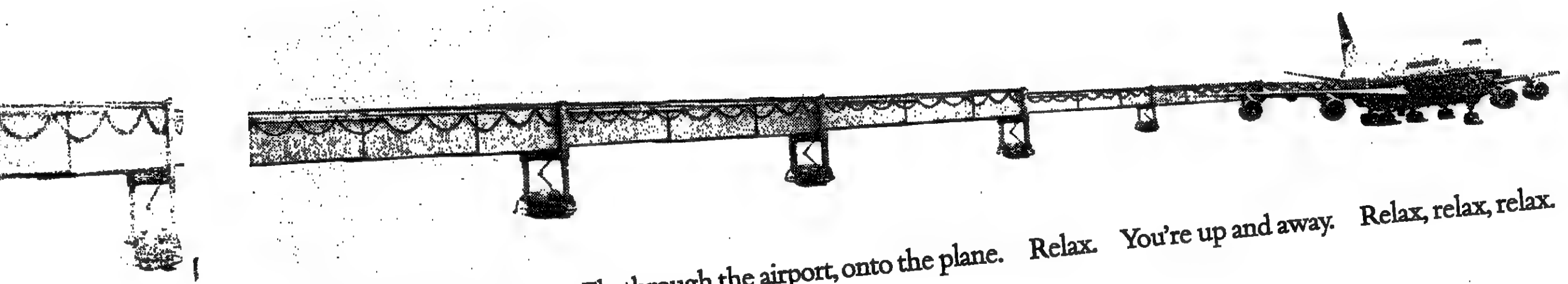


Check-in at our new terminal. Hand over your bags (and worries) to us. Jump on the train. Relax.

By past the t

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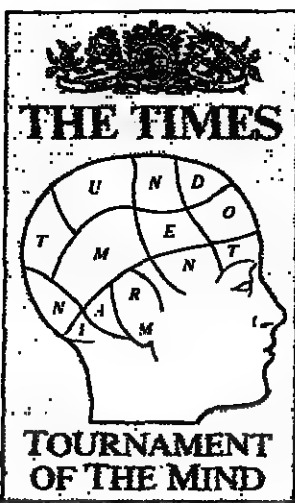


on the team. Relax

Fly past the traffic. Relax. Fly through the airport, onto the plane. Relax. You're up and away. Relax, relax, relax.

SPECTRUM

Tournament of the Mind



● Today the Schools' Final of *The Times* Tournament of the Mind begins. The top schools will battle it out for the prize of an IBM Personal System/2 Model 30 computer

Vardean Sixth Form College in Brighton, one of the schools to have reached the finals of *The Times* Tournament of the Mind, shares with many of the top candidates in the individual section the fact of being maths-oriented.

All the members of the college's team were drawn from the mathematics and computing classes, even though, as vice-principal Sean Hannan points out, they had an extremely wide range of other subjects between them.

The idea of having a team came from Alan Ball, head of computer science, but from there the team was highly self-motivated. "Their aim

was not just to do well," Hannan says, "but to get absolutely nothing wrong. That was really the nature of their challenge, and they were terribly upset when they dropped points."

In fact the college dropped only four, scoring 996 out of a possible total of 1,000. Only three schools did better. The team started by allocating particular members to the task of solving particular questions, but as the tournament progressed, they found themselves pooling their knowledge more and more, occasionally splitting into sub-groups of two and three towards the end.

SCHOOLS' FINAL — ROUND ONE

LOGIC

The letters of the word ANTARCTIC have been placed haphazardly in the square below. By starting at the bottom left-hand A and moving upwards to the top right-hand C, from square to touching square, you will find more than one way of collecting all the letters contained in ANTARCTIC, in any order. You cannot move diagonally or collect more than nine letters. How many ways are there?

A	N	T	A	C
I	N	C	I	I
T	A	R	C	T
N	T	A	R	C
A	N	T	A	R

2. VERBAL

Can you think of two words of the same six letters which will replace the stars in this sentence: Despite her mother's * * * * * she still trembled from the * * * * * of the night.

3. MATHEMATICS

Can you work out the logic of this series of numbers and then tell us what should come next?

7 9 25 441 ?

4. MISCELLANEOUS

Four cog wheels are in constant mesh. The largest has 1,221 teeth, the next one has 121, the next has 12 and the smallest has 5 teeth. How many revolutions will the largest cog have to make before all the cogs return to their original position?

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

1. Which German tribe from North Jutland defeated the Romans in 113 BC and was finally defeated by Marius?
2. Which churchman and saint wrote *Etymologiae*?
3. Name the president of the provisional government of Czechoslovakia in London during World War II?
4. What name is given to the semi-desert area in East Ethiopia enclosed by Somalia, except to the west?
5. What word is used to describe the underground system of distribution of forbidden publications in the Soviet bloc?

You really must have a glass

The great illusion at the heart of society is that alcohol is not a drug. In the first part of a series, Jancis Robinson examines the way we drink — and the rituals which ensure there are few who do not

None of us drinks alcohol. We drink delicious, liberating, inspiring or socially significant liquids which happen to contain alcohol. Yet alcohol is a powerful drug. No matter how many of us see it as a necessary adjunct to our lives, it is abhorred by a high proportion of the world's major religions and viewed by some as the fount of all evil. How is it that this potentially dangerous substance is so enmeshed in our culture that there are long periods of the week and year when mild intoxication is a majority state for the nation, and teetotalers are regarded as social deviants?

Like some national monument, alcohol's position in our society is so entrenched that we hardly even notice it. Throughout childhood, most of us observe it playing a central role in the social life of our parents. We see them taking a drink with friends, even our teachers, when they want to oil or cement a relationship. The act of drinking is regarded as an important symbol of adulthood. Most of Britain's dominant faiths — Protestantism, Roman Catholicism, Judaism — sanction alcoholic drinking by virtue of incorporating it into religious ritual. Shock and accident are widely treated with a tot of strong drink and we have soothed our troops with free alcohol for centuries. All important life events —



THE DEMON DRINK PART ONE

marriage, successes at work and play — are toasted, and even funerals are marked by communal drinking. State banquets and toasts continue to play an essential symbolic part in international diplomacy. Many social groupings with an ostensibly sporting purpose appear to revolve around drink and drinking. Our apparently relaxed attitude to alcohol brings a number of benefits. Because much less guilt attaches to social drinking in this country than in, say, Sweden, binge drinking is far less common (although it is notable that the more Nordic the area in Britain, the more prevalent it is). But we are still hampered by the extraordinary rituals and values we attach to all

drinks that happen to contain alcohol.

It is the dogmatism with which we insist that to drink is normal, to abstain abnormal, that suggests our attitudes to alcohol are not quite as relaxed as they seem. Drinking with non-drinkers is uncomfortable. Is this because we know they won't be wearing glasses tinted rose by ethanol when viewing us? Or because we do actually feel some guilt about our own drinking?

Unlike members of Mediterranean cultures, the typical drinking Briton is intolerant of those who do not join him in strong drink. More than an element of the antipodean "drunk equals macho" phenomenon can still be observed in Britain today, especially in Scotland and parts of northern England. Those who want or have to drink "soft" often have to sacrifice their social life entirely.

One hurdle to overcome before Britain could ever be said to have adopted sensible attitudes to drinking is the "treating" system of buying rounds of drinks at a time. Many men who pare to the minimum their contribution to the household expenses spend disproportionate amounts in the pub, club or bar treating fellow drinkers to drinks.

In the more "sophisticated" social settings of contemporary Britain, where abstinence would be perfectly understandable — lunch in a



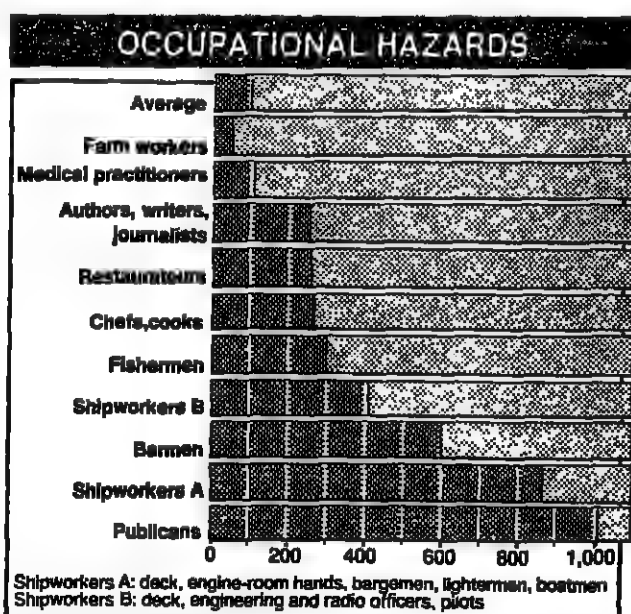
West End restaurant in the middle of a heavy working day, for instance — a complicated social minuet has often to be danced between lunchers who don't want to drink, to ensure that such restraint will not upset the other lunch partner(s).

Why are we all so active in encouraging each other to drink? It may be partly a misplaced sense of generosity to provide plentiful supplies of lubrication in its most highly taxed and expensive form. But could it also be that by spreading responsibility we are lessening our own guilt?

Our total drinking, calculated in per capita consumption of pure alcohol, rose steadily after the war until the recession of 1979. It dipped in 1980, '81 and '82, since when we have been drinking very slightly more, although the 1985 figure of 7.1 litres of pure alcohol per head is still considerably below the peak of 7.5 litres we averaged in 1979. There are also healthy signs that our total national consumption is being spread over more drinking occasions.

The most notable recent change in our drinking habits has been not in how much we drink, but in what we are drinking. Historically, we have been known as beer drinkers. In 1979, however, our beer consumption peaked, with an average annual consumption of nearly 215 pints a head, representing 60 per cent of the pure alcohol the average Briton consumed. Since 1979, beer sales have fallen considerably.

This decline in consumption of the pub's *raison d'être* merely mirrors the decline in the role played by the pub in British society. It probably reflects, too, the much more ingeniously innovative approach of those trying to make



Taking the average rate of male mortality from cirrhosis as 100, the chart shows that a fisherman is three times more likely to die from drink, while a publican runs 10 times the average risk

money from new spirit-based drinks and, more poignantly, the decreased spending power of the traditional beer drinker: the male manual worker in some of Britain's more depressed areas.

Our consumption of spirits also peaked in 1979, but has been creeping back after the stable duty increases of 1981, thanks largely to the success of exotic spirit-based drinks such as Bailey's Irish Cream, Malibu and Bezzique.

But the real change in our drinking patterns is in the dramatic infiltration of wine into British society. In 1986 we drank more than five times as much light table wine as in 1970: more than 11 litres a head, or 15 bottles a year.

Many observers feel that the move to wine-drinking signifies a certain maturity in our

THE KEYS TO THE LIQUOR CABINET

Many of us feel we hardly need expensive research to confirm a strong correlation between alcohol consumption and occupation.

Some jobs incorporate alcohol in the working routine. Those in and around the drinks trade, from publican to gin salesman, bonded warehouse-keeper, wine merchant, distillery worker, even excise-man, all have obvious and constant exposure to strong drink during the working day.

But in many less obvious work-places, the key to the office drinks cabinet is seen as one of the tokens of professional advancement — together with the sanctioning of lunchtime drinking on an expense account. Alcohol is used as a positive reward for employees above a certain level by many employers who rarely seem to examine the consequences of unrestrained consumption during the working day.

However, the employer's role as monitor of alcohol problems is becoming a key factor in the theory of good management — even the police have a special unit to deal with this problem in the force. But it seems that most employers accept drinking by their employees within surprisingly narrow limits: too little can jeopardize the business of socializing with clients (and colleagues); too much may lead to summary dismissal, as though the problem were entirely independent of the employer and the structure of the job.

Of course, there is one demanding and under-researched occupation which in many cases exposes the worker to drink throughout the working routine without supervision of any sort: that of housewife or "home-maker".

Young children may not supervise, but they do monitor, which can act as a natural brake on the daytime drinking habits of a parent. But the reaction of many who are suddenly left alone in the home all day with unaccustomed free time, whether because of the departure of offspring or bereavement, is to turn too enthusiastically to the bottle.

Martin Plant, Director of

the University of Edinburgh's Alcohol Research Group, has isolated those factors in a job that are most likely to encourage consumption and, possibly, lead to alcohol problems. Availability is, of course, of prime importance.

Those who are self-employed or work unsupervised are also more prey to the ravages of over-indulgence, but a particular pressure felt by, for example, travelling salesmen and mailers is that of being separated from normal social and sexual routines and relationships.

It is also observable, apparently, that alcohol problems tend to develop in those with either a particularly high income and plenty of money to lavish on the drinks cabinet, or a particularly low one, with many a sorrow to drown.

Stressful, hazardous occupations may also encourage (and perhaps excuse) heavy drinking. This has been the traditional excuse for the medical profession's hard-drinking record.

In the 1970s doctors were more than three times as likely to die from chronic liver disease or cirrhosis than the average.

The incidence of liver cirrhosis in pub workers and those who go to sea for a living is frightening. One can only hope that all those who dream of a pub in the country are aware that publicans are more than 10 times more likely than the population as a whole to die of cirrhosis: further evidence for the theory that it is the regular drinker who is most likely to develop liver damage (company directors, for example, and the French as a whole, rather than the "biags" drinker whose problems are more likely to be social (manual workers) and the Finns).

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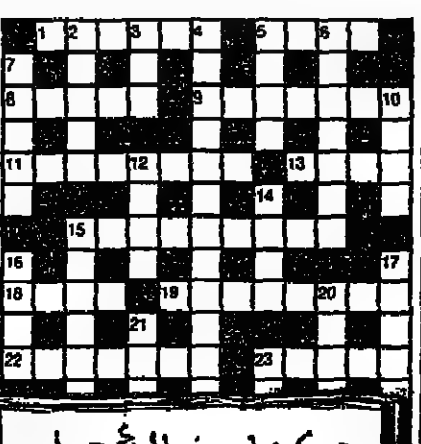
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Which German tribe from North
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and was finally defeated by
Christ?

Which Churchman and saint
the Etymologies?

Name the president of the provisional government of Czechoslovakia in London during WW2

What name is given to the semi-arid area in Eas. Ethiopia called **Sannaa**, except to the west?

What word is used to describe
an underground system of
distribution of forbidden
publications in the Soviet bloc?

ass

THE LIQUOR CABINET

The University of Edinburgh's Alcohol Research Group, led by Dr. David Rees, has identified three factors in a diet that are most likely to encourage alcohol consumption, possibly leading to alcohol problems. Availability is of course, of great importance.

Those who are self-proclaimed 'workaholics' are also more prey to the temptations of over-indulgence, had a particularly stressful job, for example, travelling extensively and others in that line are warned from normal alcohol and sexual pleasures and other feelings.

Dr. Rees, who is a research fellow at the University of Edinburgh, says that the three factors are: the time of day when drinking is most likely to occur, the type of drink consumed and the social context in which drinking takes place.

Dr. Rees says that the research was carried out by a team of researchers at the University of Edinburgh, who have been studying the effects of alcohol on the brain for many years. The research was carried out using a technique called 'functional magnetic resonance imaging' (fMRI), which allows researchers to see what is going on in the brain while a person is drinking alcohol.

Dr. Rees says that the research was carried out using a technique called 'functional magnetic resonance imaging' (fMRI), which allows researchers to see what is going on in the brain while a person is drinking alcohol.

In the early days of the war, the British Government was in a position to supply the United States with a large quantity of war material. This was due to the fact that the British had a large stockpile of war material, which they had accumulated over the years. The British Government was in a position to supply the United States with a large quantity of war material, which they had accumulated over the years.

10-580W

1. The first part of the document is a list of names and their corresponding addresses. The names are listed in the left column, and the addresses are listed in the right column. The names are: John Doe, Jane Smith, and Bob Johnson. The addresses are: 123 Main St, 456 Elm St, and 789 Oak St.

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(continued)

1. The first group of people who are not in the majority are the people who are not in the majority.

2000

... ..

1990

WOLF HORSE

OVER THE YEARS
WE'VE SAID
MANY THINGS
ABOUT EUROPE.

On banking in the Common Market, October 1971:

“Any Bank with international pretensions has, of necessity, endeavoured to strengthen its associations with the Common Market”.

On banking in the European Community, April 1974:

“The financial institutions of the UK are expected to make a major and active contribution to the development of the financial structures in the enlarged Community”.

On why it must be yes to Europe, April 1975:

"We in Barclays have no hesitation in believing that it is from within the Community that our potential can best be realized".

On the City's global market, July 1975:

"The EEC role in building new relationships with this fast changing world is crucial".

On why we must stay in the EEC, October 1977:

“We felt we should make our position clear because we had direct operational experience in almost all the countries intimately affected.”


On the opportunities in the EEC, October 1981:

“The European Community has become a major factor in British commerce, finance and industry. For Britain adaptation has been substantial and profound.”

BUT THERE'S
ALWAYS BEEN A
SINGLE THOUGHT
BEHIND THEM.

"Barclays sees all of Europe as its Home Market. It is now up to us to make certain that we, and our customers, succeed in this new, exciting, but increasingly competitive environment".

John Quinton, Chairman, Barclays Bank PLC
February 1988.

+++ YOU'RE
BETTER OFF
TALKING TO
 **BARCLAYS**

TIMES DIARY CLEMENT FREUD

New York

New Yorkers are distinguishable from other citizens by being their own people, doing their own things. If you own a restaurant, as does one Mr Nicholson on 58th Street and 1st Avenue, there is no reason why you should open up — as Mr Nicholson did not the first time we tried to go there. He is elderly, has been around for some decades and has a set menu which, on the day we found him open, was cheese soufflé, roast chicken, chocolate soufflé, coffee and half a bottle of wine per person at an inclusive \$40.

It is an Edwardian basement beautifully appointed with a shining mahogany central table, bearing a turn-of-the-century knick-knack. "Was there a cheese board instead of chocolate soufflé?" we asked. Well, no, said the high caste Indian waitress, the chocolate soufflé has been on the menu for 40 of the 48 years Mr Nicholson has been here... everyone likes it.

My son, for whose eve of wedding reception I am responsible and for which I was trying to find a location, said Cafe Nicholson would be great. Sadly, the proprietor was unkeen: "I go to Europe for two months every summer and don't want to worry about upcoming functions. I may not be back by early September and we don't open unless I am here." So I tried the hotel where I was staying, had a meeting with a banquet lady who showed me the Versailles Room and thought that two and a half hours of champagne and smoked salmon and things for about 100 people ought to be attainable at around \$55 a head plus tax at 8 per cent, service another 17 per cent; she would ring me. I was in the hotel for two more days. She rang not, even though by Friday, thanks to a sliding dollar, I was nearly 2 per cent closer to being able to afford her asking price.

One thinks, because the Americans speak a similar language to ours, that conversation with — understanding of — the US citizenry would not be the cause of problems in communication. I was quietly reading the newspaper on Thursday evening when the nice receptionist phoned from the lobby to say there was a party downstairs for me. I was genuinely touched.

Although I had stayed at the Carlyle before, and they welcomed me back with warmth, there are not too many large hotels that go out of their way to arrange surprise celebrations for their clientele. I was actually waiting for an investment broker to take me to a pork bellies market; that would now have to be postponed; I know the correct positions in the totem pole. I polished my shoes, essayed the first five moves of the conga, took a sip of olive oil which always facilitates the benign consumption of strong liquor, went down the elevator and crossed to the reception desk: "I believe," I said, "that there is a party for me: how very kind." The receptionist pointed to an elderly chauffeur standing on the pavement.

BARRY FANTONI



'I'd feel much happier about supporting Ridley if I had the faintest idea how it worked'

I went into a shoe shop, found a pair of size 10, triple E sneakers and gave the salesman my credit card. Far from behaving as they do with Mr Whicker in TV commercials, he examined it with suspicion and asked for my driving licence. I did not have it with me and said that in most countries permission to operate a vehicle on the public highway was neither necessary nor relevant to the purchase of casual footwear. He said that many cards were stolen they liked further proof of identity. I pointed out that if I had stolen the card I would also have stolen such supportive documents as he requested. Having only one piece of plastic was surely a sign of integrity; would he or would he not sell me the shoes? He said yes, added "Have a nice day" and when I said thank you he replied "You bet".

I spent the weekend caught in the slipstream of serious money; left New York by stretch limo which you hire by the foot and was driven to some corner of a distant field where a Lear jet awaited us. My host telephoned the Lear jet during the 30-minute car journey — to tell the pilot he would be there in ten minutes, then five minutes. Then he rang his own chauffeur to ensure that he would be ready and waiting 90 minutes later, three states away.

I know of no better way to travel: the limo drives up to the jet, luggage is transferred and the two pilots tell us five passengers that the weather is going to be good, we shall fly at 480 knots, the deicers marked whisky, brandy and gin are behind the panel on the port side, ice is in the plastic container, have a nice day. There are also two trays of fresh fruit, cheese and crackers and a deck of playing cards in case you have to cut for who jumps out first. On arrival the plane stops by the waiting limousine and you are away.

In Michigan on Friday night the party discusses going to the movies. As everyone has seen everything that is on and previewed most things that are going to be on next week, we go out to dinner instead. The trendy outing is to see *Babette's Feast*, which won the Oscar foreign picture award, and then on to a restaurant where they serve what was eaten on the screen: \$125 per person, which was £71.50 but is now only about £70. They had all seen *Babette's Feast* so we just went to dinner. Now I won't have to see the movie — in which people apparently eat caviar and stuffed quail and behave with small decorum.

Every year many thousands of foetuses are abandoned after abortion. Although the moral issues involved in this destruction have been more than thoroughly aired, a disturbing new dimension of the debate has now surfaced. With recent disclosures of the use of foetal tissue for therapeutic purposes, the question arises as to what we owe the aborted foetus. Do we owe it nothing at all — abortion, after all, is directed towards bringing its existence to an end — or do we have some continuing obligation to an entity that is, in some senses at least, human?

Current concern in Britain and the US is over the use to which foetal tissue can be put in the treatment of Parkinson's Disease and possibly of a number of other diseases, ranging from Alzheimer's Disease to radiation sickness. The proponents of such procedures have a simple argument to put forward. If it is legal (and ethical) to take tissue from the dead for transplant, there is no reason not to use foetal tissue for the same purpose. Why discard it if it can be of benefit to a person needing treatment?

This argument has attractions but must be subject to a major qualification: the foetus must not be deliberately created in

order to be used for therapeutic purposes. This would exclude, for instance, the request made last year by an American woman to be artificially fertilized by sperm from her father in order to abort the foetus and use its tissue for his treatment. Such a procedure would be technically legal in the US.

What many of those concerned with medical ethics fear is that the development of foetal tissue transplantation will result in a market in foetuses conceived purely for transplant purposes, rather in the way that surrogate mothers have conceived children for adoption by sponsors. The chilling aspect of this is that life would be deliberately created for "harvest", a prospect which causes concern even among the most liberal pro-abortionists.

Other doubts expressed over the moral propriety of foetal tissue transplants include anxiety over the possibility of

continuing the pregnancy until a desired state of foetal development has been achieved, and the possibility of pressure being brought on the wavering mother to abort rather than to continue with the pregnancy.

Indeed, the view of some anti-abortion spokesmen is that the whole issue will serve to make abortions more respectable. If the mother is seen to be helping medical science by aborting the foetus, then abortion might seem to be less morally dubious. Conversely, those in favour of abortion see a danger that opposition to foetal tissue transplantation will solidify anti-abortion concerns.

Should the mother consent to such use of foetal tissue? In the Birmingham programme the mothers were unaware of what was being done, and some might say that there is nothing objectionable about this. In one view they have forfeited all rights to any say in the fate of the foetus.

having decided to abandon it through abortion.

Another view, though, is that a mother has an interest in the foetus of the same order as any other body part. It might also be borne in mind that in normal transplantation procedures the relatives of the deceased are usually consulted.

The problems associated with transplantation give rise to even greater ethical difficulty when a foetus is kept alive until term in order to have organs removed. In practice this will occur only where the foetus is detected as being anencephalic, which is the state of having most of the brain missing. Such children are doomed to die anyway, but is it ethically acceptable to keep them alive until transplantation of organs can be arranged?

This problem arose in the US recently when a couple discovered through pre-natal tests that the foetus the mother was carry-

ing was anencephalic. They sought to find a hospital which would keep the child alive after birth long enough to remove organs. No hospital was prepared to do this, on the grounds that the child, having a functioning brain stem, and therefore breathing, would not be dead.

The delicate moral issues involved in this growing area of novel medical treatment suggest that certain guidelines should be adopted even before any attempt is made to provide for formal regulation.

At a conference on the subject in Ohio last year, it was agreed that there should be clear separation between those doctors with an interest in foetal tissue transplantation and those concerned with abortion. This is already accepted in other areas of transplantation activity, and should find few objectors. There is also consensus on the fact that recipient and donor should not be related to each other, and this

requirement would lessen the chance of collusion in the pregnancy.

As in many other areas of scientific advance, developments such as these tend to produce alarmist sentiment. In the United States the National Institute of Health announced last week that federal funding for foetal tissue research programmes was to be suspended pending the deliberation of a committee charged with looking at the ethical and legal implications. This has caused surprise among those who see no real problem in a beneficial and potentially productive form of therapy, and who fear that medical progress will be seriously impeded.

They say that the real issue is acceptance of abortion, and that once that watershed has been crossed, it is too late to have ethical qualms. This is not necessarily the case. Foetal tissue transplantation is an incidental issue thrown up by the practice of abortion which in many ways conjures up distinct ethical and legal dilemmas as profound as those engendered by the abortion question itself.

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Alexander McCall-Smith on medicine's new moral issue

Danger: foetus farming

Bernard Levin

Shrouding the basic issue



I have always wanted to begin a column "If the Pope is anything like me", and I doubt if I shall ever have a better opportunity, so here goes. If the Pope is anything like me, he must be very close to wishing that the Turin Shroud had never come into existence.

In case there is anybody who does not know what the shroud is, I must explain that it is a sheet of linen, undoubtedly very ancient, in which it is believed by many that the body of Christ was wrapped after being taken down from the cross and before being placed in the tomb.

The belief that it is a true relic has endured for some centuries, and is reinforced by marks on the linen, some of which seem to be the stains of sweat and blood, and by the undoubted fact that there is a faint imprint of a noble face on it, together with the outline of a body. It is now kept in Turin Cathedral, held in trust for the church by the Archbishop of Turin.

In less sceptical times its august origin went unquestioned. The eye of faith having dimmed over time, however, the eye of science has for some time been cast upon the precious memento. Scientists now claim that with their sophisticated techniques they can fix with reasonable exactitude when the shroud was made, and it must be remembered that just because a claim is made by scientists it is not necessarily false. If, therefore, they can show that the holy cloth post-dates the Crucifixion by centuries, its sanctitude at once disappears; shroud it may be, but not Christ's.

For a long time requests for scientific examination of the shroud were rejected out of hand by a scandalized church. But gradually the claims of modernism began to sound less outrageous in the ears of the Holy See, and the scientists' approaches were no longer met by a door slammed in their faces.

Still, they were not allowed to examine it, partly on the reasonable ground that in order to do so they would have to cut a piece off to put under their micro-

scopes. But finally (though nothing in this story is final, which will be my point if I should ever get to it), it has been agreed that a piece of the linen, measuring some 650 cm (for comparison, an ordinary 18p British stamp is 550 cm), will be cut from it and delivered in turn to each of three establishments considered expert in these matters: Oxford University, the Zurich Institute of Technology, and the University of Arizona.

Their tests will be "blind". Each will be given the sacred morsel accompanied by two apparently similar scraps, the age and provenance of which are known. These two pieces will be the controls, for since the scientists will not be told which of the three is from the shroud, only if they get the two nulls right will they be listened to when they pronounce on the real thing.

Assuming — a large assumption — that yet another of the holy rows that have so often marked this story does not break out within the next few months, we should have the scientists' answer before 1988 is out. But I bet the Pope is gradually becoming convinced that it is more trouble than it is worth.

Now for my reasons, and my point. There are two pairs of possible outcomes to the investigation. First of the first pair is that the scientists all declare that they are unable to come to any conclusion. Second, that the findings of each of the teams differs wildly from the other two. In either of these eventualities, everybody will be exactly where

they were before, so let us turn to the second pair. First, the scientists agree that the cloth is at least 1,500-plus years old. Second, that it is much younger than that, perhaps centuries younger. "Hurrah!" cry many; "O calamity!" vouchsafe others. (And, you will realize if you think carefully, vice versa.)

But the Pope must have seen — hence the groaning that I attribute to him — that both of these, too, leave everything pre-

cisely where it was before. Suppose the shroud is indeed 1,500-odd years old, so that it could be the cerecloth of Jesus; it will remain impossible for anyone to prove that it actually is. On the other hand, suppose that it was made in the 15th century, or was run up by my grandfather, Yossi the Tailor, so that it cannot be the sacred relic. What then?

Well, the Pope must understand, whoever else does not, that the argument over the shroud is and always has been spurious; the clue to its irrelevance being the interest taken in it by unbelievers. The real argument is about Christ, not his shroud. Either the Christians are right or they are wrong; that is, either what they believe when they recite the Creed is true, or it is not.

It must be one or the other, but whichever it is does not depend on the age of the linen sheet in Turin Cathedral or on the liquefaction of the blood of St Januarius, any more than it depends on those splinters of wood from the True Cross which are sold in such numbers to innocent tourists visiting Jerusalem that experts have estimated that the True Cross must have been considerably larger than St Paul's Cathedral. (It's a mercy that the same vendors haven't been selling patches from the Turin Shroud, clearly labelled "Marks & Spencer". Perhaps they have.) Listen to Shaw's Archbishop:

Parables are not lies because they describe events that have never happened. Miracles are not frauds because they are often — I do not say always — very simple and innocent contrivances by which the priest fortifies the faith of his flock. When this girl picks out the Dauphin among his courtiers, it will not be a miracle for me, because I shall know how it has been done, and my faith will not be increased. But as for the others, if they feel the thrill of the supernatural, and forget their sinful clay in a sudden sense of the glory of God, it will be a miracle, and a blessed one.

The Holy Shroud may be a miracle, but if so it is an unnecessary one. If it turns out

to have been woven centuries later than the life of Christ, there will be much jeering from fools who think they are rationalists; if it proves to be of the right period, it will be greeted by the same fools doing the same jeering, in this case offset by the praise of the faithful, though nobody, whatever the result, is going to change sides. Yet the argument, which will not be settled if every scientist in the world agrees on its dating to the very hour it came off the loom, has taken on such apocalyptic proportions that one half of the world is now waiting for the tests under the impression that the result will be the Second Coming, and the other half is convinced that it will lead to the prosecution of the Pope for breaking the Trades Descriptions Act.

If Christ suffered on the Cross, and was taken down and buried in a tomb, he was presumably wrapped in a shroud. That shroud may be the one in Turin, or it may be the threadbare tablecloth that I have just seen on a stall in the Portobello Road, priced at a fiver. Most likely, it crumbled to dust centuries ago. But by arguing over the identity of the shroud, those who are arguing are missing a much more important argument, viz., shroud or no shroud, did the wearer rise from the dead after three days? If he did, it doesn't matter if he emerged from the tomb in a monogrammed Herbie Frogg shirt, and if he didn't, it doesn't matter if he was buried in a Harrods carrier-bag.

Beside that tremendous question, the Turin Shroud is a hindrance, whence my sympathy for the Pope. Incidentally, the scientists are now saying that they are confident of dating the shroud "to within a century", which opens the enticing prospect of another, brand-new, quarrel over which end of the selected century is to be preferred. I tell you, if they asked me to be Pope, I would refuse, blown if I wouldn't.

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Commentary • ROBIN OAKLEY

Recipe for revolt

Before the emergency debate on social security I asked a regular Tory rebel if he would support the Government. "I'm tempted not to," he said. "But I'm going to rebel on the new charges for eye tests and on the poll tax next week and you have to draw the line somewhere."

He took the Macmillan view: "By all means rebel, but only on one issue at a time — otherwise it confuses the Whips."

The present state of rebellions on health charges, social security changes and the poll tax has induced not so much confusion as sheer panic. A government with a confident radical programme and a huge majority has become extraordinarily jumpy. Mrs Thatcher and her business managers are in a twitter about Michael Heseltine, depicting him as the arch plottor behind their imminent embarrassment on poll tax.

Circumstantial evidence supports them. Michael Mates, the Conservative backbencher whose amendment would wreck the flat rate principle of the community charge, has been a Heseltine agent. Mr Heseltine will speak tonight. But the band of potential rebels are not a Heseltine cadre. Nor has Mr Heseltine needed to foment rebellion. The poll tax has enough enemies of its own.

The rush of jitters about a Heseltine coup is borne of government fear at his success at cultivating the Tory grass roots. Though Thatcherites assure each other that Conservative MPs would not elect as their leader the one-time mace wielder who walked out of the Cabinet over Westland, they wonder uncomfortably how many MPs will take into regard the torches

flickering on the hillsides for Mr Heseltine when the moment comes.

But such "wobbly Thursday" twitters are nothing new. Close colleagues of Mrs Thatcher assured me in opinion poll troughs during the last parliament that Peter Walker was about to throw up his cabinet post and mount a challenge for the leadership.

What is worrying for the Government is that the present rebellions are not on incidental but on central elements of Tory policy. The poll tax pledge was in the manifesto. The social security changes were passed two years ago with the admirable purpose of seeking to simplify the ludicrously entangled benefit system, to reduce the poverty trap and to direct more help to low-paid young families.

What has happened is an accident of timing coupled with bad planning. It always was the intention to push through the most contentious items in the programme during the first session after the election precisely because some rebellions were expected. The same theory lay behind the controversial Budget. What had not been anticipated was that Labour would prove so effective in focusing attention throughout the winter on the financing of the health service. That meant that the dancing jigs around their BMWs was bound to cause more than the average frisson of middle and upper-class guilt.

Further angst was inevitable when that was followed by the introduction of the new social security regulations, the casualties of which included Conservative voters with more than £6,000 in the bank who had

become accustomed to drawing housing benefit.

Neil Kinnock's concentration on individual cases in the Commons and a brilliant speech by Robin Cook exploiting Tory alarms about the social justice of the Government's package led Tory MPs to fear, with reason, that the Conservatives would be seen as a divisive party of two nations.

For a government to choose that point to face MPs with the report stage of the Bill imposing charges for eye tests and dental checks was a serious blunder. It ensured a maximum focus on the regressive nature of the poll tax — a measure which many senior Tories believe would be dropped tomorrow were it not for Mrs Thatcher's obsession with her 1974 promise to replace the rating system.

The present problems have occurred even without an opinion poll plunge. Whether rebellion among Tory MPs becomes a way of life will be determined by two things.

If the local elections prove the poll tax a disaster then we can expect further concessions from Mr Ridley as the implementing orders come to Parliament.

And if the opinion polls show, even after the average working man finds an extra £5 in his wage packet after the implementation of the tax cuts in July, that the Budget is still regarded as unfair, then we can expect a revival of the Tory Weis.

But Mrs Thatcher and her cabinet are not fools. And so long as the nurses get their money and the Treasury picks up the bill, I suspect we will be back to business as usual, and the usual thumping majorities, by the autumn.

SCIENCE REPORT

Heads they win

In a landmark embryology discovery, German geneticists have identified a molecule in the eggs of a species of fly that directs the development of the head. The discovery is important because it fulfills a long-sought "criteria for a biological morphogen", a chemical that tells the embryo which body structures should be made where.

The same processes underlie the development of all animals, so the discovery has implications far beyond flies.

The work was reported by Christiane Nüsslein-Volhard of the Max-Planck Institute for Developmental Biology, Tübingen, at the annual joint meeting of the British Society of Cell and Developmental Biology in Bristol.

It has its origins in two traditional lines of research in biology. One is the classical approach of manipulating an embryo and observing how it develops. In this way, for example, such "monsters" as insects with two heads can be created. These experiments show that the egg of an insect contains a kind of blueprint for embryonic development.

The other source for the new work is the molecular genetic approach, most successfully applied to the fruit-fly *Drosophila melanogaster*. In this approach, genes that affect development are identified by their effects when mutated. It is then only a matter of time before they can be cloned and a molecular study of the protein that they specify can begin.



The first clue to the specific molecule essential for fruit-fly head development came from a very simple experiment. A hole was pricked at the front end of the egg to allow some of the contents to escape. The result was the development of embryos with normal posterior ends but no heads.

The breakthrough came when a mutation was found that has very similar effects. This mutation was in a gene called *bicoid*. To see its effect it is necessary to breed female flies in which both copies of the *bicoid* gene are mutated. These flies cannot supply any normal *bicoid* gene product to their eggs, which consequently develop into headless embryos.

These mutant eggs can be rescued if they are injected with the contents of the front end of a normal embryo. The crucial observation is that in these rescued embryos, the

head forms at the site of injection.

Not long after these experiments were performed the *bicoid* gene was cloned. This has enabled Nüsslein-Volhard's group to discover where the protein encoded by the gene appears in fruit-fly eggs and embryos.

The instructions for the *bicoid* protein are provided to the egg by cells called nurse cells that are attached to the front end of the egg while it is still in the mother fly. These instructions take the form of RNA, the intermediary molecule that carries the instructions of the gene itself to the machinery of the cell where the proteins are made.

It turns out that *bicoid* RNA stays at the front end of the embryo, so that there is a gradient in the concentration of the *bicoid* protein throughout the embryo.

The concentration of the *bicoid* protein at a particular position in mutant embryos correlates with body structures made by cells in that position. It is this correlation that shows the *bicoid* protein is acting as a morphogen.

The next step will be to find out how variations in the concentration of the *bicoid* protein are interpreted by the cells of the fruit-fly embryo to dictate their developmental rate. These analyses of humble fruit-flies will provide insights into the fundamental mechanisms by which higher animals develop.

GEOFFREY NORTH

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BRAIN TO BRAIN

Few people can consider the principle of cell transplants from the brains or adrenal tissue of aborted fetuses without finding perilous implications. Although the treatment is still at the experimental stage, the general expectation among scientists is that medical breakthroughs in this field are not far off.

This form of surgery is likely, for example, to exacerbate still further the ethical difficulties over when a foetus is truly dead. Brain tissue dies very soon after its oxygen supply is cut off. To be useful, therefore, it must be removed from the foetus very soon after it has stopped breathing. This is so difficult that it is already thought that many fetuses have been operated on for other transplants while they were still alive.

As Alexander McCall-Smith points out on the opposite page, it also raises the possibility of babies being actually conceived to provide such tissues, or of being preserved after abortion in order to keep the brain cells alive — raising fetuses for spare parts, as an American doctor has put it. The prospect of such a development being fuelled by the profit motive is appalling.

Fears about brain tissue transplants are greater than for other transplant operations. Vast numbers of elderly people suffer from brain diseases, such as Parkinson's or Alzheimer's, that might be treated by this method. A large number of them, especially in America, would be willing and able to pay for a new lease of life.

Vast numbers of fetuses would be potentially available. A "foetal tissue industry" could soon be in place. An immediate and natural reaction must be to follow the present rule in the United States and ban transplants of foetal tissue pending a legal decision on the ethical issues involved.

Against this, however, is the dreadful suffering of people with diseases of the brain. More than 100,000 have Parkinson's disease in Britain alone. It is equally natural to wish to do something so that they can be spared this suffering and lead normal lives. The suffering

of these people is actual and present, and not a matter of ethical theory or possible future implications. Where then does medical — and civic — duty lie?

This is the issue now facing the council of the British Medical Association. The BMA's Ethical Committee has drawn up a list of recommendations which it is to put to the council on May 4. They are believed to recommend allowing the experimental treatment to go forward, but to maintain total separation between the decisions of the implant surgeons on the one hand and those concerned with the abortions on the other. This, it is hoped, would reduce the chances of abortion — or conception — for transplant.

This is probably the best that general human and medical ethics — falling short of the absolute principles of religion or of strict utilitarianism — can manage. How far it is really practicable is another matter. The very fact that tissue for transplant must be extremely fresh requires close co-operation between the doctor performing the abortion and the doctor operating for the tissue. A good deal of consultation is likely to occur, if not in Britain then certainly in some of the less well supervised medical systems of the world.

In these circumstances, the medical profession must be asked a prior question. Why was the public not informed earlier about these developments? Once again, an experiment is on the point of completion before anyone gets round to asking whether it should have been attempted at all.

The need for greater openness in the medical and scientific professions is all the more important as researchers begin to investigate genetic technology. Argentina is still coping with the consequences of the irresponsible and uncontrolled research which, as a by-product of the search for a rabies vaccine, infected the milk supply for an entire town. In this age, more than ever before, science is too serious a business to be left to the scientists. It requires policemen, with an awareness of both ethical and environmental dangers.

A BIGGER PILLAR

The Western European Union is preparing to take another step in its search for a new role this week. It is considering whether or not to ask Spain and Portugal to join. This would be the first enlargement of the alliance since West Germany and Italy were admitted 34 years ago.

During the two-day meeting which opens at The Hague today, it is probable that the present seven members will merely invite their Iberian neighbours to apply. As Sir Geoffrey Howe has put it, the advantages of enlargement must be weighed against any risk to its fragile unity. Spain's equivocal attitude towards nuclear weapons, its suspicion of military integration within Nato and its lingering dispute over US bases, could complicate rather than ease the WEU's problems as it continues its four-year-old revival.

The question, however, is yet another sign that West is approaching a turning point in its post-war history. The INF treaty and the renewal of détente, a diminution in Washington's global authority, the refocusing of interest on the Pacific and, for Europe, the imminence of 1992, suggest a series of awkward questions for Nato under its new Secretary-General. The signs of change, are everywhere.

This is nowhere more apparent than in France, the mainspring behind the relaunching of WEU in 1984. The run-up to next week's presidential election is dominated by familiar faces and old themes, but there are currents of thought beneath the surface which could soon push France in new directions.

French governments have enjoyed a remarkable consensus on defence for the last twenty years. While Britain, West Germany and to some extent the United States, have been riven by furious debate and demonstrations, the French independence, as exemplified by its nuclear deterrent, has gone unchallenged. Even under the Socialist Mitterrand, it has remained, to allied eyes, a Gaullist power.

The signs of change, however, have been there for some time. Growing co-operation between its forces and those of Nato has now been accompanied by bilateral agreements with Britain and, more notably, West Germany. Concerns (by no means confined to France) about the possibility of American troop withdrawals from Western Europe, have now prompted a more urgent search for a

European role. French interest in strengthening European defences is not new. What is new is that growing European doubts about security have provided the French with both the need and the opportunity to exploit it. There are those who even talk of eventual re-integration within Nato — though that would have to be a Nato with less American influence. Meanwhile, it is the reinforcement of the so-called "European pillar" on which the attentions of Paris are concentrating.

After years of relative military isolation, even a change of emphasis by the Elysée would be controversial. There are signs in France of unaccustomed criticism, of concern over nuclear energy and weapons, for example, after Chernobyl. There is also new pressure on the defence budget as demands grow for spending on health and education. All these may nudge France towards more inter-dependant defence.

Further justification for the concern felt in France and elsewhere has emerged with the Danish parliamentary vote to tighten restrictions on nuclear-armed visiting warships. The dismay expressed by Washington reflects growing American impatience with capricious allies on this side of the Atlantic and the vote itself is further indication of the reaction of some European countries to détente.

Enlargement of the WEU would help the French out of an embarrassing position. Señor Felipe González, Spain's Socialist Prime Minister has asked to join the new Franco-German defence council and brigade. In politics (but swiftly) declining, President Mitterrand has been able to express the hope that the Spanish government might find it more congenial in the WEU instead.

If Europe is to strengthen its defence identity, if only to impress the Americans, the addition of Iberia would seem necessary at some point. With Spain and Portugal now partners within the Community and Nato, this should be sooner rather than later — as long as the price in changed attitudes is right.

Meanwhile the moment is ripe for this country, France and West Germany, to move closely together on security. In the absence of a defence review in Nato, these three should conduct one between themselves. There is a new mood for togetherness on defence and they should not let it pass without taking advantage of it.

LOST IN THE MYTHS OF TIME

The Foreign Office is already rather tired of hearing from smart Alec enquirers who wish to criticize the Latin grammar of its former man in Beirut. The taped conversation in which Mr Frank Gallagher warns Mr Terry Waite about the threat to his safety, published for the first time yesterday, is certainly not in the style which his old schoolmaster would have wished. *Consulatus*, it has been pointed out, is a nasty hybrid between the second and third declensions; *Sum Consulatus Britannicus* an inelegant approach to classical word order.

But all that could be forgiven — indeed would gladly be — if there were some plausible reason for the FO man choosing the Latin tongue to deliver his warning in the first place. There is not. The whole tape appears as a terrible reminder of the gap between the civilized life of the official Government envoy and the world in which the Archbishop of Canterbury's personal diplomat had volunteered to move.

According to his opening remarks Mr Gallagher considered the use of Latin to be some clever code. This beggars belief. From Mr Waite's grunting replies he may have shared this view. "Nomen meum est Frank Gallagher" hardly requires the attentions of Beirut's Bletchley Park.

Perhaps the consul, in a state of sun-struck reverie, saw a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to bring back diplomacy's golden age. Here he was, conversing with a distinguished clerical legate in circumstances of intoxicating danger. He could have been Machiavelli or Boccaccio.

In those far off days the perfect ambassador was, in the words of one chronicler, "a theologian, a Christian, a philosopher, and a man who spoke Latin with classical refinement". True, our man in Beirut failed to live up to this ideal beyond his four stumbling sentences. True, for the sensitive section of his message he returned to English. But the thought was there.

Perhaps it was the spirit of Sir Charles Napier which moved him. Napier, it was said, sent a message home after capturing Sindh province bearing the single word *pecavi*, Latin for *I have sinned*. "The most laconic despatch ever issued," said the magazine *Punch*, which, unfortunately, seems also to have been responsible for the coining of the pun in the first place.

You will never keep a good myth down. Sadly, that includes the myth that official channels can offer any real help to Mr Waite and the other hostages held captive by the barbarians of Beirut.

Case for not keeping own counsel

From Mr Roger Gray, QC

Sir, The Marre committee is shortly to report upon the future of the legal profession. Two comments may be permissible.

First, it is devoutly to be hoped that its recommendations will not be tainted by current dogma about the desirability of competition in all spheres. Anybody who knows anything about the law will have been horrified by the suggestion of Mr Michael Grylls, MP, and other Conservative back-benchers that we should adopt payment by contingency fees.

The lamentable results of such a system are plain to see when it operates in America. The probity of the English Bar, and hence the judiciary, depends in large measure upon the absence of the contingency fee. It is astonishing that Mr Grylls and his colleagues do not understand this.

Second, there is the matter of the right of a client to direct access to his barrister. The argument against this is difficult for a layman to understand but it is nevertheless overwhelming. Contrary to a widespread belief, the task of counsel is not to identify himself with the cause of his client but merely to put forward his client's case as best he is able.

This demands an objectivity of approach which is best attained by the case having been presented to him in writing before hand, rather than by the oral, and often confused, protestations of the litigant. It is true that solicitors, to whom the client has direct access,

frequently represent litigants in the lower courts. But, for the most part, such cases are not ones of complexity, involving a high degree of skilful analysis. The fact that direct access exists in such cases does not justify an alteration of the practice in the higher courts, in which a barrister is briefed in writing by a solicitor.

In the crown court, for instance, the result of counsel being instructed directly by the litigants would be the erosion of that sense of detachment and objectivity which is essential to the proper conduct of a defence in a criminal trial. Counsel, if he wishes, may indulge in forensic histrionics but he will not see the wood for the trees or do his client any good if he has become too closely identified with his cause.

One can see that there may be advantages in some commercial or tax matters for accountants to have direct access to counsel. They are, in any event, experts whom barristers may consult under the present rules. But the value of direct access in this limited field should not be allowed to obscure the fact that 90 per cent of the work of the Bar is not of such a rarified kind and that in respect of that 90 per cent direct access would damage the proper exercise of the advocate's role and be harmful to the public interest.

Yours faithfully,
ROGER GRAY,
Queen Elizabeth Building,
Temple, EC4.
April 14.

Mr Steel's future

From Mr David Steel, MP for Tweeddale, Ettrick and Lauderdale (Social and Liberal Democrat)

Sir, It will not surprise you that I have received a great deal of advice for and against standing as a candidate for the leadership of the Social and Liberal Democrats. None of this has been as subtle in manner and trivial in argument as your leader today (April 14), on which I have just two comments.

First, since the leadership election cannot be held until July, we are all determined to avoid constant speculation over many months on this issue. It might entertain the Conservative Party and its supporters to have our party as well as the Labour Party engaged in months of leadership election, but we are not willing to oblige.

Mammon's big guns

From Viscount Tenby

Sir, The recent flurry of concern and political in-fighting within the Conservative Party over the number of houses being built in the South-east ignores two equally vital issues.

Irrespective of the sociological, environmental and ecological threat — which, heaven knows, real enough — the erection of more houses in areas where the infrastructure is insufficient to sustain them poses major problems. Over-crowded schools and hospitals, overburdened sewage systems, and a rail network which genuinely does not have the line capacity to run more commuter trains all mean a poorer standard of life for first-time buyers lured to "favoured areas" by the advertisements of developers and estate agents.

Just as importantly, people who have lived in such areas for years see their quality of life being steadily eroded, a phenomenon less likely to occur to their city cousins.

The second issue is, surely, the need to give those doleful fighters who have challenged developers and won, some respite from further hostilities, at least for a given period of time. Usually such defences are paid for — often at great sacrifice — through the humble contributions of many individuals. On the other hand, the persistence and financial resources of the development lobby appear limitless and permit constant re-applications after only minor adjustments have been made.

Is it right that Mammon should have all the big guns, and is this one of the more unacceptable faces of a free market economy? Yours faithfully,
TENBY,
Triggs, Croodall,
Farnham, Surrey.

Ancient heritage

From Mrs Ann Orr-Ewing

Sir, How deeply one sympathises with Mr Harold Farnside (March 29) in his plea to save the lovely little town of Bradford-on-Avon in west Wiltshire by the provision of a bypass which he fears will never be built.

His fears are well founded! There is no money for bypasses because, over and above, any contribution developers may make, the county council must find the funds for education, roads, policing, etc., in new developments, regardless of the consequences for the rest of this predominantly rural county.

Wiltshire exemplifies the problem underlying the Ridley-Heseltine correspondence, where central Government overrides county councils' attempts to restrain development to what they judge to be affordable financially as well as environmentally, but turns its back on the fact that massive new developments such as Swindon erode services in the rest of the county to the distress of many of the ratepayers.

A new approach to the authorisation of major developments and the funding of their public services is urgently needed.

In particular, we are all determined to make as big a success of the local elections on May 5 as we have been each week in local government by-election victories; hence my determination to remain silent on the leadership issue until the appropriate time.

Second, however far away you might suggest I go from the domestic political scene — United Nations or elsewhere — I have no intention, whatever the leadership decision, of abandoning my commitment to the success of the Social and Liberal Democrats and the values for which we stand.

They have never been more needed in our country.
Yours faithfully,
DAVID STEEL,
House of Commons.
April 14.

Rewriting history

From Mr K. J. Barnes

Sir, It is easy to poke fun, as you do in your leader of April 9, at the proposals to produce a supposedly unbiased "European" history. And it is of course also impossible to produce such a work (the widely disparate accounts of Waterloo contained in Lord Chalfont's *Battle of Three Armies* are evidence enough of that).

Nevertheless, no one can deny that the English history one learns in British schools is terribly biased, even if it is no more so than the comparable history learnt by French or German school-children.

A bit more appreciation of the roles played by other countries, a little less of the assumption that England has played the dominant part in every European activity since 1066, might help us now more easily to come to terms with our present position as a partner, an important but junior one, in the European Community of the 21st century.

Yours faithfully,
K. J. BARNES,
29 Bearwater, Charnham Street,
Hungerford, Berkshire.

Spiritual guardians

From Father Noel Burke

Sir, Whether there be a patron saint of bookmakers (letters, April 7 and 13) I know not. But how about St. Mathias, chosen by lot in the early Church to take the place of Judas among the Apostles (Acts 1, 15-26)? As there was only one other candidate, chances were at events.

He would hardly be the punter's patron though, for the purpose of the whole venture was to take a twelfth place.

Yours sincerely,
NOEL BURKE,
St Kessog's,
Balloch, Dumfriesshire.

Scots frown on museum sales

From the Chairman of the National Galleries of Scotland

Sir, There has been much comment generated by the proposition that the trustees of national museums and galleries should be given a power of sale over their collections.

The National Galleries of Scotland already have had that power since 1983 but have never exercised it. The possibility that we should make use of it has been recently canvassed in a policy review paper on the National Galleries of Scotland prepared by our sponsoring department, the Scottish Education Department.

The trustees of the National Galleries of Scotland have considered this proposal, but concluded that they were unwilling to accept it. Our fundamental objection is that it would constitute a breach of trust with those who have been donors in the past and who gave or bequeathed in circumstances where they were entitled to believe that their gift or bequest was permanent and had been accepted on that basis.

My trustees believe that in this sensitive area it is imperative to maintain the utmost good faith. A retrospective change in the basis on which past gifts or bequests

have been received is inconsistent with good faith and must inevitably put on guard those who may be considering future gifts or bequests. We have recent experience that this is the case.

It is all too easy to misrepresent this conclusion as being based on misdirected curatorial zeal or on the squirrel-like tendencies of fallible trustees; that was the gist of an article on this subject by Simon Jenkins in *The Sunday Times* of April 10.

In the case of the National Galleries of Scotland we intend to ensure that neither criticism will apply to us. Among other steps, we will arrange that more of our collections are displayed and we are also enhancing our lending policy.

We believe that these steps, and others which we are taking, are the correct answer and not the imposition of a power of sale which we did not seek and which we believe to be a misconceived remedy for different problems. Yours faithfully,

ANGUS GROSSART, Chairman,
National Galleries of Scotland,
The Mound,
Edinburgh EH2 2EL.
April 11.



ON THIS DAY

APRIL 18 1939

By the spring of 1939 it was widely recognized that the outbreak of war could not be far away. Day after day, *The Times* carried news of measures being taken to meet an emergency.

NATIONAL SERVICE FOR PIGEONS

"WIRELESS" DUTIES WITH R.A.F.

A REGISTER OF BIRDS

A register of carrier pigeons for use in war-time is being compiled by the Air Ministry. The pigeons would be carried in R.A.F. machines and used to convey messages if an aeroplane's wireless apparatus were put out of action. Since the War the R.A.F. has maintained a pigeon service, and at Calshot and two centres overseas it breeds and trains carrier pigeons of its own.

During the crisis last September the Air Ministry received offers of pigeons from thousands of fanciers. All the offers were filed, and on this basis a national register is being prepared. Owners of pigeons seem keen to place them at the Government's disposal, and it is expected that about 500,000 of the birds will be available to play a part in national defence. That part might well be vitally important. With a moderate tail wind a good bird will fly at 1,800 yards a minute over 300 miles, and in highly favourable conditions speeds of over a mile a minute have been reached. The highest speed claimed for a carrier pigeon is a mile and a half a minute over 300 miles.

WOMEN'S LAND ARMY
The Women's Land Army, the members of which would be ready to take up farm work as a full-time occupation in war, is proving an attractive branch of national service. More than 7,000 applications for enrolment have been received and more than 6,000 women have already been enrolled.

A.R.P. handbook No. 9 — "Incendiary Bombs and Fire Precautions" — is published today (Stationery Office, 6d.). Explaining why the public should be prepared for dealing with incendiary bombs, the handbook states that one large bomber can carry between 1,000 and 2,000 small bombs, which, if scattered over built-up areas and not dealt with within two or three minutes after falling, might start so many fires that no fire brigade could be expected to deal with them all. Moreover, water mains might be damaged, or drained dry, or damaged roads might prevent a fire engine reaching the site of a fire.

LIGHT INCENDIARY BOMB
The incendiary bomb most likely to be used, on account of its effectiveness, is, according to the handbook, the light magnesium incendiary bomb, which weighs about 2lb. 2oz. These bombs would probably be dropped from a great height since they do not reach their maximum power of penetration until they have fallen about 5,000ft. Because of their lightness they cannot be aimed accurately. They spread out as they fall, and a group of bombs dropped simultaneously from 5,000ft would cover an area of about 100 yards square.

This light bomb will penetrate any ordinary roof, but is likely to be caught in an upper story, starting a roof fire, and, if not properly dealt with, burning through the ceiling below. The handbook recommends easy access to attics and roof spaces, and states that the amount of inflammable material in roof spaces, attics, and upper storeys should be reduced as much as possible. Advice is given on how to cope with incendiary bombs and the fires they may start. As this is mainly a question of ordinary fire precautions, the book states, much of this advice is equally applicable to peace-time.

Thwarting hijackers

From Mr Graham Chaine

Sir, The installation on planes of a "secure compartment" for the storage of passengers' passports, as recommended by the Deputy Director of the Institute for the Study of Terrorism (April 12), might prove a mixed blessing during a hijack. Would not the absence of proof of identity put passengers in as much danger (a Briton mistaken for an American, a Saudi for a Kuwaiti) as does the passengers' present retention of their passports?

What would be more to the point would be the sealing off on all aircraft, during flight, of the flight deck. Surely this is not impracticable. The ease with which terrorists gain access to the pilot's cabin is as alarming as their ability to board planes with weapons in the first place. With the flight deck sealed off, the plane should proceed, regardless of events in the passenger section, to its scheduled destination.

Further measures should include a refusal to communicate with anyone aboard the plane except the pilot, and a total news black-out until the situation is resolved. The present worldwide publicity of hijacks as they occur only panders to the terrorists' sense of importance and accords them already a partial triumph of their scheme.
Yours faithfully,
GRAHAM CHAINE,
47 St Barnabas Road, Cambridge.
April 13.

Remand prisoners

From the Chairman of the Howard League

Sir, Lord Windlesham, in his letter (April 7) and on other occasions, has had more to say about privatising the prison system than Home Office ministers. As Chairman of the Parole Board he is of course much concerned about the grotesque conditions within many prisons, but it is surely naive to believe that setting up separate and privately managed prisons would tackle the fundamental problem of persuading the courts to make more selective use of custodial places.

Indeed, there is a very real danger that Lord Windlesham's proposal of a three-way choice for the courts of bail/private custody/public custody would lead to an overall increase in the use of custody, given the additional cells made available.

It is also suggested by Lord Windlesham that the state has distinct interests with regard to remand and sentenced prisoners. There is, of course, a difference in legal status, reflected in the Prison Rules, although these have recently been weakened by the Home Office with respect to remand prisoners having meals sent in. But the responsibility of the state is as great and awesome, whether or not the person in custody has been convicted.

For many remand prisoners, whose first experience of custody this may be, there can be intense anxieties about family, employment and other personal circumstances. The threat of personal disorientation is considerable. The duty of the state to provide for the welfare of persons on remand is no different for remand than for sentenced prisoners.
Yours sincerely,
ANDREW RUTHERFORD,
Chairman, The Howard League for Penal Reform,
322 Kennington Park Road, SE11.
April 8.

To make a cat laugh

From Miss C. D. Preuss

Sir, Like so many things learnt in childhood, a sacrosanct habit has been to put all loose hair and combings from a hairbrush out of the bedroom window for the birds to line their nests with.

Now that golden tresses are thin and grey, with no insulation properties, the copious combings from a large cat are hooked to a thorny branch of a pyracantha tree.
Imagine our joyous mirth this morning to see our (?) robin flying past weighed down by a tabby moustache twice his size!
Yours faithfully,
CHRISTINE PREUSS,
16 Church Walk,
Thames Ditton, Surrey.
April 14.

THE ARTS

TELEVISION

Spite's not right

On *Did You See?* (BBC2) last night, *Spitting Image* producer John Lloyd wondered why all the letters in *Points of View* were read by manic actors with ham voices. To underline the point he made a manically silly item featuring one ham actor - himself - attempting to be very funny about access television.

It is not difficult to become annoyed by *Points of View* nor difficult to be funny at the expense of *Network*, a stagey and unconvincing confrontation programme, but to match flippancy with flippancy and use them to laugh at the indecisiveness of the now-departed Michael Grade, looks like pure spite.

What irritated me about Lloyd's glib item, which contained some apt and wry remarks about making television programmes about television programmes, was that he rubbished Channel 4's *Right to Reply* with a single idiotic clip.

That programme has consistently provided the most informed and least sensationalized discussion of television issues - far better than the cosy debating society atmosphere of *Did You See?* - and it deserves better.

Elsewhere, television's weekend was dominated by victims - notably in a remarkable *Everyman* (BBC1) devoted to an inspiring lady who adopts and fosters hundreds of children in a house near Chelmsford. Jeanette Roberts was abused as a child and had a traumatic tale to tell; many of the 42 children she cares have been abused, are criminal, or are just plain difficult.

Jean Murray, an interviewer who for sensitivity and point-futility leaves most others far behind, drew out the stories without a hint of gloating. I would have liked to know more about the funding aspects of such a venture, but instead we saw discipline applied through what can only be described as moral force.

Lucky Sunil (BBC2) was a victim with very little going for him: a naive Indian arriving in Britain with high hopes and idealistic aspirations, who soon has his face rubbed in the mud and ends up bespattered with curry after a restaurant brawl, and is imprisoned for a week.

The film was brilliantly directed by Michael Caton-Jones and cleverly scripted by Andrew Davies, from stories told by one of the actors; just so we could not suspect it of prejudice, most of the ills inflicted on Sunil were inflicted by his own race, especially Balam, the wily Indian who introduces Sunil to gambling and wins all - including Sunil's future.

There were some hilarious stretches of film, notably in the law crammer where Sunil finds himself instead of London University; Benjamin Whitrow's delicious Mr Slippier was superb, but his daughter Terence (Niamh Cusack) was almost too disturbing to be amusing.

Sunil's involvement in a Billy Bunter porno-flick was a rather forced sub-plot, but there was lovely acting throughout from Kevlin Gair as the young hero, who managed to keep a smile on his face to the final frame.

William Holmes

"I always said I'd rather die than sell my fiddle."



Unfortunately for some, there comes a moment when that choice has to be made.

Musicians who have given others many hours of enjoyment sometimes fall on hard times and find they cannot even provide for themselves.

The cause can be old age, illness - anything. But you can help.

Just as they have bestowed their gifts on us, we can give something back to them.

A donation to the Musicians Benevolent Fund could mean that musicians' lives don't have to end on a sour note.

Even better, remember the Fund in your Will. That way your love of music can live on for others to enjoy.

PLEASE SEND A DONATION, LARGE OR SMALL, TO:
MUSICIANS BENEVOLENT FUND
SIR IAN HUNTER, CHAIRMAN.

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مكتبة الأصيل

Sheridan Morley meets Joe Layton, director and choreographer of the musical *Ziegfeld* at the London Palladium

Master of the moment

Opening at the London Palladium tomorrow week, after previews, *Ziegfeld* is, at three and a half million pounds, one of the most expensive stage shows ever created in this country. Its creator is, like its subject, neither a writer nor a composer.

Technically, Joe Layton is a director and a choreographer, but he prefers to think of himself as a stager, a man who can take an idea and turn it into a show without being unduly constrained by book or lyrics. Indeed, some of his greatest successes of recent years have been closer to Las Vegas than Broadway or the West End: stage shows built around the eccentric cabaret talents of Bette Midler, or spectaculars like the closing of the 1984 Olympics.

For all that, Layton had a comparatively orthodox start, setting out 50 years ago as a boy singer of Jewish songs. "My father was a Brooklyn laundryman in the Depression, and as money was tight I used to go around singing for 10 dollars a night. I was damn good at seven, but mother said there was even better money in dancing, so she pushed me into Juillard. From there I auditioned for Agnes de Mille, and she put me into the original *Oklahoma!* at 15. I danced that in all of the 48 states which in those days made up the Union."

Like the other great Broadway choreographer of his generation, the late Bob Fosse, Layton then became a Jerome Robbins dancer and might have stayed a hoover forever, had it not been for the Korean War.

"I began staging shows for the troops, directing actors as well as dancers; and that made me decide I never wanted to go back to a chorus line again. The only trouble is that once you become a choreographer, if people ever see

you dancing again, they figure your career is in real trouble."

But, by the time he was 25, Richard Rodgers had hired him to choreograph the original *Sound of Music*, and from then on Layton's career was seldom in trouble.

"Once you meet and start working for one of those giants, you tend to meet all the others: by the time I was 30 I'd choreographed for Jule Styne and Frank Loesser; but it was really Noel Coward who started me as a director."

"When we did *Sail Away*, in 1960, he'd somehow forgotten how funny he could be. I think I helped him to loosen the show up, and when we were in trouble on the road we rebuilt it entirely around Elaine Stritch, who'd started out with a much smaller role."

"For a while I thought, after *Sail Away*, I'd just go on forever doing Broadway musicals; but then *Hair* broke out like a rash and suddenly even those of us who were still quite young were made to seem hopelessly old-fashioned; so I decided to move out to California and try movies, like *Thoroughly Modern Millie*.

"But I couldn't bear the time they took to make: you spend what seems like five years, editing out every comma and every burp, until you finally lose the moment, the immediacy, the spontaneity that really matters. What is wonderful about a stage show is that it gets built again and again every night you play it."

"There's only so much you can do on a typewriter or in conference with writers, even when they're as talented as Ned Sherrin and Alistair Beaton, who we've got here. There then comes a moment when you have to look at the actors and the singers and the dancers you've hired and decide what they can do best, and build

the rest of the show around them.

"That was how I originally built *Barnum* in New York, and just as that was a man's life through his circus, so this is a man's life through his follies. Just the name of *Ziegfeld* is enough to make you excited and want to find out about him: when I was a kid in New York, his follies were still being staged, so I grew up in his era."

"The casting here is not as important as all those classic songs. I've staged 'A Pretty Girl is Like a Melody', so it lasts 18 minutes; and then we've 'My Man' and 'Stairway to Paradise' and 'Harvest Moon'. Robin Don't set is a wonderful manifestation of my sonic insanity."

"This has been both joyous and a killer to develop: the sheer scale is frightening, when you figure he had 40 mistresses. But what *Ziegfeld* understood best was escapism: spectacle, so we've gone right back to that."

"In New York today, a show like this would be economically impossible to risk. There's just no patience there any more, and it costs too much to make a mistake; which is why Broadway has become a kind of department store, importing all its good ideas and products from elsewhere."

"But over here a show like this is still just possible, and I think it's what I do best. After my wife died, leaving me with an eight-year-old son, I figured maybe I'd have to find some other way to make a living, but now my kind of shows seem to be coming back and luckily, in my late fifties, I've still got the energy to do them."

"Luckily again, over here, there are still a lot of people who just want to be entertained. In New York it's piranha time, and entertainment seems to be a dirty word. I just want to have a wonderful night in a theatre and make sure the audience does, too."



Still got the energy: Joe Layton pictured during rehearsals for *Ziegfeld*

Dim prospect

The press release for this 75 minutes of fey Irish chatter describes it as a "romantic adult comedy, somewhere between Woody Allen and Flann O'Brien".

Now, when I was a boy, growing up in West Surrey, we proudly told visitors that the highest point between the Andes and the Urals was Leith Hill (you had to draw the right line). But we never were so deranged as to suppose that our local eminence - 965 feet - had much in common with Popocatepetel or the Siberian Peaks.

Ben Keaton, co-devisor and co-actor, hails from Dublin, as did the peerless O'Brien; and, like Woody's persona, the character Keaton plays is flummoxed by New York women. There resemblances end.

We first see him, dressed as a pink rabbit, delivering a telegram in the Lower East Side. Knowing nothing about girls, being from Ireland, he falls easy prey to the first one who asks him into her apartment, and soon is down to his grey underpants and red socks, losing his virginity to the bold, slow climax of *Rhapsody in Blue*.

But she is an artist's model and, when her nude portrait is bought

THEATRE

Gone with the Wind 2

ICA

for the National Gallery of Ireland, he panics, being Irish, lest his mother discover what girls look like when they take their clothes off.

Speaking hesitantly, moving slowly and smiling faintly, Keaton earns a good laugh when he tries to lean negligently against a mantelpiece too low for his elbow. And the pair of them are touching when she hangs upon his neck and both are still, but two good moments is not a high score over 75 minutes.

The girl is played by the American clown, Cairo Cannon, modestly likeable when she does not smile at us after a sight gag. I dare say a press release would describe her comic style as somewhere between Tallulah Bankhead and Beatrice Lillie.

Jeremy Kingston

● Penelope Keith takes the role of Hester Collyer in Terence Rattigan's *The Deep Blue Sea*, directed by Alan Strachan, at the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre, Guildford, from April 19. The production then moves to the West End.

● Kent Opera's spring tour begins at the Orchard Theatre, Dartford, on May 4 with a new production of *Court Ory*, which will be joined by *A Night at the Chinese Opera* and *Don Giovanni*. The tour includes performances at Canterbury, Plymouth, Southsea and Eastbourne, where it ends on June 11.

● Two Dames head the bill of The Australian Bicentennial Celebration concert at Drury Lane on Sunday, May 15. Dame Joan Sutherland will sing in extracts from *Norma* and *Lucia di Lammermoor*. Dame Edna Everage, aka Barry Humphries, will narrate Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf* with Royal Opera House Orchestra conducted by Sir Charles Mackerras.

Barry Tuckwell is the soloist in Mozart's Horn Concerto No 1 in D, which he has completed and orchestrated himself. The concert will be attended by Princess Alexandra.

Two more French dance companies in the short season organised by The Place presented pieces at the weekend remarkable for their similarities and differences.

Mathilde Monnier's company *De Hève* is the better known. In *Je ne vois pas la semaine, caché dans la forêt* she uses two actors and five dancers, in a decor made of scaffolding and sheets of plastic, with projections, properties and many changes of costume, that range from chic through satirical to deliberately sloppy.

The construction is episodic, building a lot on contrasts: between one secretive girl and another who is cute and lively; between a big sloppy clown of a man and his sadly hopeful little

Mad about the girl

After berating the Royal Opera House once or twice recently for drab and unimaginative casting in the Italian repertory and for fielding singers past their best, it is a pleasure to record that this weekend's revival of *Lucia di Lammermoor* has a quartet of principals at - or close to - their vocal prime. But *Lucia* often brings out the best in Covent Garden. With Sutherland, Anderson, Bergonzi and Kraus all fresh in the memory, not too many risks can be taken.

So here is Edita Gruberova singing the title role in London for the first time, a part for which she is famed in Central Europe. In Act I it seemed that expectations had been pitched a little too high. The timbre was too hard and the volume turned up too loud: surprisingly, also, the top of the voice sounded a bit pinched.

Gruberova, with a multitude of neurotic gestures, was offering, in "Regnava nel silenzio", a Lucia who, if not off her trolley, was certainly not sitting on it dead centre.

That all changed in Act II, with the confrontations first with brother Enrico and then with Raimondo, as ineffectual a tutor as a poor girl could have wished upon her. Here Edita Gruberova put back the warmth into her soprano and with it a sense of the pathos of Lucia surrounded by

OPERA

Lucia di Lammermoor

Covent Garden

those trying to bend her will. There were some thrilling soft notes and in the sextet of the Wedding Scene some thrilling loud ones as well.

The Mad Scene was spectacular, especially in the flute accompanied passages of deranged memory, with, again, the voice under perfect technical control. The final "Spargi d'amaro" lacked a little brilliance, but Gruberova got the ovation she deserved.

Luis Lima has sung Edgardo here before and, although he is approaching 40, he looks as though he is fresh from high school. The voice is remains fresh too, especially in Act I, where Lima was the mainstay of an evening still finding its way. Everything Lima does is clean and direct: tone, diction, acting. But there were signs of tiredness in the closing "Tu che a Dio", covered by too many intrusive sobs. Where Gruberova improved steadily Lima started at a high level and then slid a bit.

Wolfgang Brendel, the ad-

vised Enrico, was replaced at the last minute for the opening night by Alexandru Agache, who happened to be in London for auditions. This is the second time in a few months that the Romanian baritone has helped out Covent Garden - the previous occasion was in *Ballo*. He did the same highly professional job, wanting only some more polish in phrasing. Covent Garden should now award him a new production and proper preparation.

The bass Giorgio Surian, who has spent most of his career in Italian houses, made an impressive British debut as the tediously pious Raimondo. But the Royal Opera need to do something about the casting of the comprimario roles: a quavering Normanno, a drab Alisa.

Sir John Pritchard had a changeable evening in the pit, beginning in his most laid-back style and content to keep the whole thing together. Then he proceeded to conduct the great ensemble passages with immense authority, pulling the whole stage into the sweep of Donizetti's music. Zeffirelli's production has long been but a shadow of its original self and indeed it is now mainly shadows - misty *Ghost Goes West* - but they retain some potency.

John Higgins

DONALD COOPER



Youthful veteran in a cliché with a warm debutante: Luis Lima (Edgardo) and Edita Gruberova (Lucia)

Similar purpose, differing results

DANCE

Theron/Monnier

The Place

sidekick: between them and the personable, strong younger men.

Once it got going, which took quite a while, there was a lot of lively, unexpected movement, but the general purpose remained hermetically concealed, the effect intriguing, clever, but not emotionally involving.

In many ways I was more impressed by what Didier Theron achieved with fewer resources. For *Les Partisans* he has just himself and two young women as dancers:

no scenery, simple costumes. But, with these modest means, he sustained a suggestion of people in hazardous circumstances, constantly on the alert for unknown danger.

There was no specific plot like Monnier he arranged a succession of episodes to a potpourri of music. But he did succeed in conveying the strain on the relationships among the three, and he did it with movement that found a new motif for each episode and developed it exhaustively.

I found the concern for human feelings more direct than in Monnier's work; but the two choreographers share a purpose of shaping movement to a complete structure.

John Percival

RADIO

Partner picking

"I cannot go on in perhaps vain hope of meeting Mr Right, Mr Nearly Right will have to do." So said Colette Sinclair, in the closing moments of *The Male Order Business* (Radio Four, Wednesday) and you might say she was speaking for 99 percent of all the women that have ever been - those that have had any choice in the matter of male partner.

Yet almost none will have spent two years and a lot of money - most of it I gathered, put up by Colette's mum - in quite so determined and organised a pursuit of the unattainable. For this "attractive, tall, classy brunette" (her own description), married more than once and with a small, vocal child, had set out at the age of 31 to find male perfection by advertising for it in the press.

The *Taller*, she discovered, produced the best class of chap, applicants via *Time Out* had more awareness, but a greater propensity for telling lies.

In the end it seems to have been a pretty disillusioning experience, not entirely unrelated, I suspect, to that of taking part in things like our own dear *Portfolio*, where, for all but the lucky one or two, even an impressive opening quickly peters out. And maybe the two activities are related psychologically as well: both types of addict hoping for more luck than can be reasonably expected, both undeterred by repeated failure.

In Colette Sinclair's attempt, of course, the process quickly proved a great deal more crossive than so much emotion, so much self esteem, invested in each new disappointment. Even her mum grew unenthusiastic: "I wouldn't say I've been impressed with any of them," she remarked. "They all took and didn't give." But then, as such a candid programme could hardly conceal, Colette herself was in the taking business too.

Catherine Mahoney produced and presumably compiled as well, her excellent material only occasionally muddled by a liking for fading one voice in the background and superimposing another. That way you often don't hear either properly. Not because one isn't audible, but because it confuses the listener's attention.

But *The Male Order Business* was implicitly self compared with *The Lord's My Shepherd* (Radio Four, Sunday, repeating tomorrow producer, James Whitbourn), a study by John Harper, organist of Magdalen College, Oxford, of the ways in which the 23rd Psalm has been set to music. Time and again sonorous illustrations faded behind commentary, thus ceasing to be illustrations at all; and when three alternative settings by Schütz followed each other, within approximately one minute, then serious fragmentation set in as well.

The best thing about *Gottweil* (Radio Three, Tuesday; producer John Thorchiaris) was Robert Stephens's performance as a human monster - which was as it should have been, for the part of Porfiry Vladimirovich, the hub on which Jack, Winter's play turned. Based on a 19th century novel by M.E. Saltykov-Shchedrin, the story follows the physical and moral collapse of a Russian land-owning family.

As the members of its three generations died, or decayed in squalid circumstances, Porfiry seemed to feed on their disintegration, growing not only in wealth and an obsession with his accounts, but in every form of turpitude. It was entirely fitting that he should have died of cold on an ill-judged sleigh ride and that at the last the earth, itself frozen hard, should have declined to take him in.

I am sorry to see the end of *The Judges* (Radio Four, Wednesday), Anne Sloman's characteristically excellent production, of conversations between Hugo Young and one Scottish, five English, judges. These have been not only absorbing but, on the whole, encouraging.

All the contributors, each from a different branch of the judiciary, have not only made it plain what judges do and the framework within which they must operate, but have often been revealing, both by statement and implication, about questions of inherent judicial bias. I came away with the impression that my chances of a fair hearing from these six were as good as, in the nature of things, they are likely to be.

David Wade

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مكثان الأصيل

MONDAY PAGE

Only a vicar's daughter

Fiona Richmond is
now Mrs James
Montgomery.
Libby Purves
learns about the
real life of a legend

To those of us who were susceptible young adults in the early 1970s, the name Fiona Richmond is as suggestive as a scarlet lace garter-belt. She was more than a nude pin-up girl, more than the country vicar's daughter who rode down Piccadilly on horseback in the buff and played nationwide in such productions as *Let's Get Laid*, and *Space in my Pajamas*. She was also the notorious sex diarist of *Men Only* magazine. She went on assignments, from Acapulco to Leningrad, Cardiff to Honolulu, and "road-tested" men of every nation as lovers.

In my early, innocent, twenties, I remember reading a few pages with fascinated horror, then gazing at the photograph of her long face, slanting eyes and provocative pout, and thinking somewhat primly: "How can this girl ever show her face again among normal people after writing all that?"

Yet here is Mrs Julia Montgomery, Hampshire housewife, pillar of the community, anxious and devoted mother of a three-year-old girl, talking about broken nights, baby-sick, potty training and the small frustrations of day-to-day motherhood and seeing a husband off to work every morning. Mrs Montgomery is attractive, but in a scrubbed and sweated sort of way; she would stand out in a crowd at a PTA meeting, but not at a premiere. When she has to buy a smart suit for some reason, she grumbles at the price and thinks how many shrubs for her garden she could have got for the money.

She is married to a nice blond young man called James Montgomery, a star presenter and producer on TVS, and appears in a BBC *Couples* programme tomorrow afternoon, sitting demurely next to him and giving affectionate wifely smiles. But the long face is the same, the slanting eyes, the slow smile; there is no secret about the fact that Mrs Montgomery is Fiona Richmond.

"My real name was always Julia Harrison," she says. "But lots of people still call me Fiona. And a few call me Amber, from the days when I was Bunny Amber. I always use the name Fiona Richmond when I want the washing-machine mended, because if the repairman is of a



Home from the ranch: Fiona Richmond, the doting mother, with her three-year-old daughter, Tara

'I thought I would be the sort of mother who had fleets of nannies'

certain age, he'll come absolutely straight round." If, however, he nurses happy fantasies of a pin-up housewife answering the door brandishing a suggestive feather-duster, he will be disappointed. She will probably be at the kitchen table, cradling little Tara.

Fiona is as concerned, constant and homebound a mother as any; when we met, she was off for three days to the Milan film festival (she was in Peter Richardson's *Eat the Rich*), and was fretting because it would be the longest she had ever left her daughter.

"I do have an au pair, but she looks after the house, mainly. I thought I would be the sort of mother who had fleets of nannies and shot back to work, but it hasn't turned out that way. I had actually

started a clothing business before I had her, but I decided to pull out and spend time with Tara. Not that I'm very good at it: I'm endlessly frustrated. I get cross, then feel guilty."

"I suppose it's the trouble with marrying at 39 and being an elderly mother: after I had her, with a bad time and a Caesarian, I was just ill and tired for a really long time. And she doesn't sleep all night, even now." This, remember, is the girl who, the first time she met James Montgomery in an interview, said firmly that she could not see herself as a housewife and "didn't particularly want children". Whatever has happened to Fiona Richmond? Is this an example of redemption by the love of a good man?

As we sat drinking our coffee, it

became apparent that it wasn't. I doubt very much whether she has changed very much at all — except as marriage and motherhood change anybody. Nor has she seen any error in her former ways: the cottage is proudly crammed with pictures of her in her various shows and centrefolds ("I only ever did pretty nudes, you know"). Tara points them out and says: "That's my mummy with no clothes on — at work."

"I think I was lucky that I didn't get caught up in the business until I was in my twenties. I'd lived away from home and supported myself in a flat. I wasn't picked up at 17 like some girls; that might have been different. Actually, I wanted to be an actress." She auditioned persistently, but "nobody wanted me."

Then I took my clothes off, and they did want me." So she became involved with *Men Only*, and eventually — because she was an educated girl and writes fluently — got the roving sex-reporter brief.

"It was a good wheeze; I got to see places like Alice Springs, where I'd always wanted to go. And I just seem to be good at writing about sex. But," she adds thoughtfully, "it makes you go insane in the end — there's so little to say."

The encounters described on her travels were strictly fictional. It was a curious *modus operandi*: like any travel journalist she would arrive in a place, sit in the hotel and look around her; but with the extra job of spotting some likely waiter or fellow-traveller and weaving an enticing fantasy around him. "The trouble is, I always had to put a few jokes in. I can't write about sex without some humour. The publishers didn't like that. I think they thought I might put the customers off."

She is vaguely shocked at the response some people (including friends and relatives of her husband, at first) had when they met her in person. "They expected some terrible, sloppy, rude bird. But really, Agatha Christie didn't go around bumping people off, did she?"

I never saw her on stage, but those who did say she had extraordinary presence. "I suppose I must do. I can't sing, can't dance, I'm a bit dyslexic, but I love performing. I learned my stagecraft in front of audiences, and we worked desperately hard in those nude shows. They were such rubbish, you had to: sometimes I long to be in a real play, with lines that do some of the work for you."

If trying to invent foreign lovers was hard work, nude acting was even harder. "You try putting on wet pancake make-up all over your body with a sponge on a chilly night in Scotland. Then go out in front of 1,500 howling Glaswegian drunks..." If her daughter wants to follow in her footsteps, she plans to tell her all about the sponges and the drunks. But with her past, fictional though some of it may be, she surely can't preach to her future teenage daughter about sexual continence and the sanctity of loving relationships? "Oh, can't I?" she replies. "Of course I will."

Years of sex-symbol status did not leave her particularly rich. "There should have been Fiona Richmond sheets, T-shirts, underwear, condoms, nude diaries. They didn't market so much, then."

She is relieved to have had her career before Aids blighted the notion of promiscuous fun, and feels faintly puritanical about Page Three nudes. "It's not that I've changed my mind about anything. It's fine in special magazines. But really, I don't want some great nipple-nude with my cod and chips."

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Adjusting to fit into the correct class

How do you slot a household into a social class? John Rentoul, in the *New Statesman*, took that particular question to bits and tried to put it together again after he had read a highly analytical study called *Social Class in Modern Britain* by Marshall, Newby, Rose and Vogler (Hitchinson, £25).

The conclusion of Marshall, Newby & Co, which Rentoul was not able to dispute, is that although wives usually hold jobs which are at a less classy level than those of their husbands, the class of the couple's household is most likely to be influenced by the man's job. In other words, the woman adjusts up. It then follows as the night the day that married women, even when they are earning a salary of their own, will tend to go into a polling booth and then vote in the way that they imagine their husbands' colleagues would.

I don't hold with this theory, even though I do not have a trio of co-authors and lashings

When she saw businessmen tucking into fillet steak she thought of the wives having beans on toast

of researchers to back me up. What I do have is a pertinent remark made by Mrs Harold Wilson (as she then was) to the effect that whenever she travelled first class in a plane and saw a whole load of businessmen tucking into fillet steak and as much free wine as they could swallow, she always thought of their wives having baked beans on toast at the kitchen table. Now you do not have to be called Marshall, Newby, Rose or Vogler to perceive that someone who lives off baked beans has a different view of the world from someone who is constantly administered to by secretaries, air stewards, chauffeurs, and very often that view is more tolerable.

In fact, I would go so far as to say that the higher a man rises in the world, the more

resentful of that world his wife is likely to be.

I speak from personal experience here, as I am usually inclined to do. Once upon a time I married a television executive who came complete with a chauffeur. While my husband travelled in cushioned ease, I continued to be half-suffocated on the Piccadilly line. In no time at all I was supporting schemes to ban cars from city centres (had such a scheme existed I would have supported a plan to ban cars from motorways) and applauding Ken Livingstone's ideas to reduce Tube fares at the expense of ratepayers, especially since my chauffeur-driven husband paid the rates.

Another point: although *Social Class in Modern Britain* found that wives adjust their class to match their husbands' (a finding about which I have my doubts) the rest of us do not make the same adjustment. To return to my former husband's chauffeur (who was such a nice man that I wish he had been the one to propose): he called my husband "Sir" while addressing me as Penny, since it would be daft to call somebody reckoning of the Piccadilly line "Madam". The only difficulty that arose was that I didn't know how to refer to my husband when discussing him with his chauffeur, something I often did as I am very glib. "Sir" seemed a bit formal and "Frank" sounded as though I were taking liberties. However, this was not something that either of us lost any sleep over.

Before swallowing the "where my husband goes, there goes I" line — hook, line and sinker — we should remember that it is the wives of Labour-voting men who are thought to have helped put Mrs Thatcher in office the first time round. Women are contrary creatures and whatever they told Marshall, Newby, Rose and Vogler, they probably changed their minds five minutes later.

PENNY PERRICK

TOMORROW

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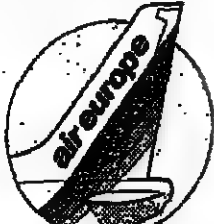
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Not better, but different

More than 500 women in Britain are widowed every day. But it takes a special sort of courage to build a new life — and start a special school



Tired of looking tragic: Daphne Hamilton-Fairley

"I hope you will not have some awful grim photo of me to go with this article," Daphne Hamilton-Fairley says. "I'm very tired of looking tragic."

She has an impetuous smile, and, at 57, strides briskly down the corridors of the school she founded and runs for dyslexic children in London. The school, Fairley House, is named in honour of her husband, Gordon Hamilton-Fairley, the eminent cancer specialist killed 12 years ago by an IRA car bomb while walking his dog. Police said later that the bomb was probably meant for his MP neighbour, Sir Hugh Fraser.

The appalling story will be told again on Thursday as part of a television documentary on widows called "Women in Black", produced by Colleen Toomey. After that Daphne Hamilton-Fairley hopes to pull down the curtain on her appearances as a widow.

She is ambivalent about publicity — "does this really help other widows? Or do other people watch this sort of thing as soap opera?" — but consented to be interviewed in the hope that her experiences might help one or two of the 500 women in this country who become widows each day.

She offers no pat formula for coping with widowhood, but she is sure that the grief of relatives of victims of terrorist bombs, or of sudden and arbitrary events like the Zebrugge ferry disaster, is consistently misunderstood. "You are often given a time limit — 'you'll feel much better in x amount of months or years'. For us this did not apply."

She thinks that what made her husband's death so difficult for herself and her four children, who were then in their early teens, was "his suddenness, his futility. One of the hardest things was that there was nobody for us to look at or to mourn, even to have seen a piece of him would have made it more real."

At first the weight of practical problems wore her out and often baffled her.

Their marriage had been a traditional one. She met him when she was 15, while skiing, and at 20 they married. Although she was trained as a speech therapist she retired after her children were born to

run the house full-time. Gordon was a successful, peripatetic man and the first professor of oecology at Bart's and the Royal Marsden Hospital.

She heard the news of her husband's death when she was in China with the Friends of the Tate Gallery. "At first I could not take it in at all; when I did, the horror was compounded by the fact that I didn't know whether my eldest daughter, Diana, who was living at home, had been killed as well."

She arrived back in England to find herself the subject of "intense and immensely intrusive media attention. This left an enormous scar on me and on my children, for we had no time at all to give way to private grief and it held us all back. I found 18 months after Gordon's death I felt worse, and the hurt went on."

She has found it helped to see widowhood not as a state

from which the strong-minded recover and the feeble give in, but as a series of crossroads, setbacks and challenges. The first big step forward for her was in 1982, when she started a school at her house for dyslexic children. The school, now based in Prince's Gate in London, has 80 pupils and a specialist staff of speech therapists and teachers. The progress they have made has attracted attention from all over the world. The school now runs teacher training and research operations.

Accomplishing this, she says, given enormous pleasure but the work is exhausting. "I could never have done this when Gordon was alive," she admits, "and at the beginning it was hard on my children, having a working mother plus borders of people in our house every day. But I think it was best for them to see me slogging my guts out than crying into the kitchen sink."

"It also gave other people something to talk to me about. People were so uncomfortable about what had happened to us — they really did cross the street to avoid talking."

Another source of strength was a rehearsal for death the family had in 1965, when Gordon thought he might die from cancer. "The children were very young at the time, and my first reaction was anger. Not poor you, but poor me left alone with four children. He dealt with this quite remarkably by saying: 'You are right and it's time now to start your independence training.' He sent me off on holiday on my own — you must remember that up until then I had never even stayed in a hotel by myself. He taught me how to organize banking and so forth. Even today I still find slips from him written in my files saying 'get television licence' or 'car insurance — pay six monthly.'"

In spite of bold efforts to forget the past and her plans for the future — which are to spend more time with her grandchildren, to slow down, to paint and to write a novel — there has been no cure as such. "I still think about him more than is probably healthy. I can still hear him saying 'ask ask' if I get the accounts wrong. I still get angry that now the children are older and we could have done so much together, I've been done out of the divvies. No, you don't get better, you get different."

A sort of turning point came in 1984, when climbing in the Himalayas with her daughter. "The hurt at the time was almost more than I could bear and when I saw this advertisement in the paper, I thought: 'That's it, we'll go.' It wasn't done as an intentional test, but the combination of getting away, the hardness of the climb, the pushing oneself to extremes and of seeing local people so happy with so little, gave me the feeling that I was going forward, and that I was finished with looking back, and was free now spiritually. And yet the oddest thing is, if he were to walk into this room today, I would still look at him and say: 'What took you so long?'"

Julia Orange

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"Women in Black", a 40 Minutes documentary, will be shown on BBC2 on Thursday at 9.30-10.10pm

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INFORMATION SERVICE

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Saturday section by a preview of the week ahead. Items for inclusion should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN

BOOKING KEY
★ Seats available
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THEATRE
LONDON

★ **BLOODY POETRY:** Nigel Terry plays Byron and Michael Rylance is Shelley in the first of a Howard Brenton season, "Three Plays for Utopia".
Royal Court Theatre, Sloane Square, London SW3 (01-730 1745). Tue: 8.15pm, Wed: 8.15pm, Fri: 8.15pm, Sat: 8.15pm, Sun: 8.15pm, mat Sat 4.30pm, £4-12.

★ **THE COMMON PURSUIT:** Simon Gray plays the fortunes of undergraduate friends, splendid cast led by Rik Mayall, John Sessions, Stephen Fry, John Gordon Sinclair.
Phoenix Theatre, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (01-586 2254). Tue: 8.15pm, Fri: 8.15pm, Sat: 8.15pm, Sun: 8.15pm, mat Fri 4.15pm, mat Sat 4.15pm, mat Sun 4.15pm, £10-15.

★ **EASY VIRTUE:** Attractive revival of Noel Coward 1926 with Jane Farrow, scandalizing her teenage husband's faithful country folk.
Garrick Theatre, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (01-379 6107). Tue: 8.15pm, Fri: 8.15pm, Sat: 8.15pm, Sun: 8.15pm, mat Fri 4.15pm, mat Sat 4.15pm, mat Sun 4.15pm, £10-15.

★ **HAPGOOD:** Puzzling new Tom Stoppard play. Spies, physics and misunderstandings, with Nigel Hawthorne, Roger Rees, Felicity Kendal and Iain Glen.
Adelphi Theatre, Adelphi WC2 (01-836 6404). Tue: 8.15pm, Fri: 8.15pm, Sat: 8.15pm, Sun: 8.15pm, mat Fri 4.15pm, mat Sat 4.15pm, mat Sun 4.15pm, £10-15.

★ **LETITIA AND LOVAGE:** Maggie Smith and Margaret Tyacke waging eccentric war against the modern world in Peter Shaffer's new comedy.
Globe Theatre, Shattbury Avenue, W1 (01-437 0757). Tue: 8.15pm, Fri: 8.15pm, Sat: 8.15pm, Sun: 8.15pm, mat Fri 4.15pm, mat Sat 4.15pm, mat Sun 4.15pm, £10-15.

★ **SHIRLEY VALENTINE:** New Willy Russell play, outstanding performance by Pauline Collins as the over-the-hill housewife tempted by a Greek island, Vaudeville Theatre, Strand, WC2 (01-836 9850). Tue: 8.15pm, Fri: 8.15pm, Sat: 8.15pm, Sun: 8.15pm, mat Fri 4.15pm, mat Sat 4.15pm, mat Sun 4.15pm, £10-15.

★ **ZIEGFELD:** Spectacular musical based on the life of the man who made the famous Follies, and costing a bomb. With Len Cannou, Geoffrey Hutchings and Louise Gold.
London Palladium Theatre, 8 Argyll Street, W1 (01-437 7373). Tue: 8.15pm, Fri: 8.15pm, Sat: 8.15pm, Sun: 8.15pm, mat Fri 4.15pm, mat Sat 4.15pm, mat Sun 4.15pm, £10-15.

★ **THE PRINCESS BRIDE:** William Goldman's fantasy farce, filmed with insufficient care by director Rob Reiner. With Cary Elwes as the hero out to rescue his beautiful princess (Robin Wright) (116 mins).
Cannon Fulham Road (01-370 2836). Tue: 8.15pm, Fri: 8.15pm, Sat: 8.15pm, Sun: 8.15pm, mat Fri 4.15pm, mat Sat 4.15pm, mat Sun 4.15pm, £10-15.

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OUT OF TOWN

★ **BOLTON:** ★ **HARD TIMES:** Adaptation of Dickens's novel set in "Coburn" (Preston), exposing the laws in the work ethic.
Octagon Theatre, Howell Croft South, Bolton (0204 26661). Mon-Sat 7.30pm, Sun 2.30pm, mat Sat 2.30pm, £2-30.

★ **NORTHAMPTON:** The Murder Factory of John Peacock play about the acid bath murders of 1951.
Royal Theatre, Guildhall Street (0604 44811). Mon-Fri 7.30pm, £3.50-5.50, Sat & Bank Holidays 7.30pm, £4-27, mat Thurs 2.30pm, £3.

★ **SOUTHAMPTON:** ★ **The Little Hercules:** Katharine Schlesinger, Georgina Hale and Michael Clutter in Neil Dunn's first play since Steaming.
Ruffell Theatre, University Road (0703 671771). Mon-Thurs 7.30pm, £3.50-5.50, Fri & Sat 8pm, £4.50-5.50, mat Sat 2.30pm, £3.50.

★ **Also on national release**
★ **Advance booking possible**
★ **BABETTE'S FEAST:** (U) One of Karen Blixen's higher tales, immaculately transferred to the screen by a fellow Dane, Gabriel Axel. With Stéphane Audran as a famous Parisian chef who tests her skills on an austere religious community (105 min).
Chelsea (01-351 3742). Progs 2.10, 4.20, 6.35, 8.50.
Reactor (01-837 8402). Progs 2.10, 4.20, 6.35, 8.50.

★ **BATTERIES NOT INCLUDED:** (PG) Last year's Christmas treat from the Spielberg factory - a story of harassed Manhattan tenement dwellers, befriended by flying saucers. With Hume Cronin, Jessica Tandy directed by Matthew Robbins (106 min).
Cannon Fulham Road (01-370 2836). Progs 1.15, 3.30, 5.45, 8.10, 8.30.

★ **BELLMAN AND TRUE:** (15) Entertaining by Pauline Collins as the over-the-hill housewife tempted by a Greek island, Vaudeville Theatre, Strand, WC2 (01-836 9850). Tue: 8.15pm, Fri: 8.15pm, Sat: 8.15pm, Sun: 8.15pm, mat Fri 4.15pm, mat Sat 4.15pm, mat Sun 4.15pm, £10-15.

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(nominated for six Oscars) (102 min).
Cannon Baker Street (01-335 9772). Progs 1.15, 3.30, 5.45, 8.10, 8.30.
Cannon Fulham Road (01-370 2836). Progs 1.15, 3.30, 5.45, 8.10, 8.30.
Cannon Oxford Street (01-596 0310). Progs 1.15, 3.30, 5.45, 8.10, 8.30.
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★ **NUTS (18):** High society where Claudia Draper kills a client in self-defence. Is she sane enough to stand trial? With Barbara Streisand and Richard Dreyfuss (116 mins).
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Compiled by Peter Dear
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TELEVISION AND RADIO

BBC1

- 6.00** *Celebrity AM*.
6.35 *East End in Double Up* (byw).
7.00 *Breakfast Time* includes national and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; regional news and travel bulletins at 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; and weather at 7.25, 7.55 and 8.25.
9.00 News and weather followed by *Open Air*. Eamonn Holmes receives viewers' comments on the weekend's television programmes. **9.30** *Kilroy*. Robert Kilroy-Gibbs chairs a studio discussion on back pain. With sufferers and those who would like to help.
10.00 News and weather followed by *Children's BBC*. Andy Crane with programme news and birthday greetings followed by *Play School* (r) and *Gran* (r).
10.55 *News at Eleven*. **1.00** News and weather followed by *Open Air* presented by Pettie Coddwell and Eamonn Holmes.
12.00 News and weather followed by *Daytime Live* with Pamela Armstrong in Long Lartin prison in Worcestershire to find out what life is like in one of the country's top security establishments. Plus *Benny Tyler* singing at the prison concert. **12.55** Regional news and weather.
1.00 *One O'Clock News* with Michael Barker. Weather. **1.30** *Neighbours*. Lucy is in a dilemma about her secret - should she keep it or confess? **1.40** *When in Spain*. The first of five programmes in which Andrew Sachs explores Spain in the company of Manuel (r). **1.55** *Islands*. The *Cher* is on the trail of an artist who recently committed suicide after the murder of his wife's lover. Starring Raymond Burr and, this afternoon, Broderick Crawford (r).
2.15 *Open University: Maths - Least Squares*. Ends at 7.20.
3.00 *Celebrity AM*.
10.20 *World Snooker*. The first of six visits of the day to the Crucible Theatre, the venue of the Embassy World Professional Championship. David Ikin introduces first round action, involving Dennis Taylor and Salvo Francisco. The commentators are Ted Lowe, Jack Karmah and Clive Everton.
1.20 *Hokey Cokey*. A See-Saw programme for the very young (r).
1.30 *World Snooker*. The second visit of the day to Sheffield.
2.00 News and weather followed by *Songs of Peace* with young Christians in Belfast (r). (CeeFax)
2.30 *World Snooker*. Alex Higgins concludes his best of 19 frames first round match against Tony Granger of Malta. Terry Griffiths begins his match with Steve Longworth, a qualifier. Includes news and weather at 3.00 and 3.50.
3.50 *Weekend*. Bob Carrington with news of radio and television programmes. Marian Foster has details of the Daytime Club.
5.30 *Tomorrow's World* includes a report from Beijing on the challenge to develop a word processor capable of reproducing the more than 10,000 Chinese characters. At home there is news of a new kind of alloy, a method of preventing the long-up of jet engines, and a local road trials-red security device for cars (r).
6.00 *World Snooker*. Further first round action in the Embassy World Professional Championship.
6.55 *Young Musician of the Year*. To Play or to Win? As a curtain raiser to a new *Young Musician of the Year* competition, an introductory film following the fortunes of some of the competitors and including a hard look at the concept of music competitions and their wider implications. With contributions from Professor Alexander Goehr, Nigel Kennedy, John Lill and Miriam Roques.
7.35 *Open Space*. Dear Mr Baker (see Choice).

BBC2

- 3.00** *The People's Court*. Judge Joseph A. Warner rules on the cases of *The Cosmopolitan Who Raised a Few Eyebrows* and *It Was Written in Cement*. **3.25** *Watchdog*. Consumer affairs series (shown again at 7.35).
3.50 *Scraping and His Tea-Time*. Telly (r). **4.10** *Heathcliffe with Cats and Co*. **4.30** *Rotund Rat*. The Series II. The guest in this first of a new series are June Whitfield, Chris Searle and Bananarama.
4.55 *Newsround 5.05* *Blue Peter*. (CeeFax) **5.35** *Neighbours* (r).
6.00 *Six O'Clock News* with Sue Lawley and Nicholas Witchell. **6.35** *London Plus*.
7.00 *Wogan*. With Anthony Perkins, Tim Sebastian and Lord Litchfield. Music comes from Danny Wilson.
7.35 *Watchdog*. Consumer affairs series.
8.00 *Don't Wait Up*. Comedy starring Tony Britton and Nigel Havers (r). (CeeFax)
8.30 *The Rumpus About Show* (r). (CeeFax)
9.00 *Nine O'Clock News* with Martyn Lewis and Moira Stuart. Regional news and weather.
9.30 *Panorama: Child Abuse*. Robin Denwood reports from Greenwich and Newcastle on the effects of the 22 per cent rise in children on the local authority 'at risk' register on social workers.
10.10 *Film 88*. Among the films reviewed is *Flowers in the Attic*; on video, *Outrageous Fortune*, *Radio Days* and *Roxanne*.
10.40 *Come Dancing*. The first of a new season introduced by Angela Ripston from the Southampton Guildhall.
11.25 *Business Matters*. Sloan's Ranges. An examination of the marketing techniques of Alfred Sloan Jr who planned the break of the Model T Ford stronghold on the motor industry in the 1920s.
11.50 *Weather*.
12.00 *Just 4 Fun*. Two programmes for children beginning with *The Golden Bird*, the first of a 13-part series of European folk stories followed by *Pop's Stories* with Roy Castle.
12.30 *Business Day*. A business and business news series presented by Susannah Simons.
1.00 *Sesame Street*. Pre-school learning series for children.
2.00 *The Late Late Show*. A music and chat show from Dublin, presented by Gay Byrne.
3.00 *Orpheus Through the Ages*. An exploration of the Orpheus myth through the ages in an animated film with Lesley Kean, *Orpheus* and *Eurydice* and a documentary *Orpheus Through the Ages*, which offers an introduction to the Orpheus myth. The film includes excerpts from Monteverdi's opera *Orfeo*, performed by the Scottish Early Music Consort, poetry by Reiner Maria Rilke and scenes from Orpheus plays by Euripides, Tennessee Williams and Jean Anouilh and Jean Cocteau's *Orpheus* (r).
4.00 *Mavis Nicholson* visits the home of Christopher Lloyd at Great Oulton in Kent. For more than three decades he has been writing about gardens and Great Dixter, famous for its box hedges and superb borders.
4.30 *Contestants*. Friday's winner is challenged by Gary Green, a retired greenkeeper from Horsham, Leeds. Richard Whitley is the questionmaster assisted in the dictionary corner by Clement Freud.
5.00 *The Munders* (byw). Vintage American comedy series about a ghoulish family starring Fred Gwynne and Yvonne Raskin. Today, Eddie comes home from school declaring that he will never speak to anyone ever again after learning that he is to have his tonsils removed.
5.30 *The Beverly Hills* (byw). Granny upsets the neighbours when she decides to grow a vegetable garden in the grounds of the Clamptop mansion. Starring Buddy Ebsen, Irene Ryan and Mac Sady.
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5.00 *The Munders* (byw). Vintage American comedy series about a ghoulish family starring Fred Gwynne and Yvonne Raskin. Today, Eddie comes home from school declaring that he will never speak to anyone ever again after learning that he is to have his tonsils removed.
5.30 *The Beverly Hills* (byw). Granny upsets the neighbours when she decides to grow a vegetable garden in the grounds of the Clamptop mansion. Starring Buddy Ebsen, Irene Ryan and Mac Sady.

Anna Ford narrates *Daughters of Abraham* (BBC2, 10.20pm)

- 8.10** *Horizons: Easter Island*. The story. The second of two programmes investigating the mystery of one of the most isolated of inhabited islands in the world. (CeeFax)
9.00 *World Snooker*. First round action in matches between Joe Johnson against Cliff Wilson; and the concluding frames in the Tony Knowles/Denny Fowler encounter.
9.30 *It's a Garry Shandling's Show*. American comedy series (r).
10.20 *Daughters of Abraham*. *Stainless in Georgia*. The first of a new series in which two Palestinian women and two Israeli Jews talk about their lives and beliefs. Tonight's programme features Mary Khase, a pacifist and Quaker who organizes nursery schools and groups at home in the nine refugee camps of the Gaza Strip. She believes in a continuing dialogue with the Israelis. The narrator is Anne Ford.
10.50 *Newsnight*. The latest national and international news including extended coverage of one of the main stories of the day. With Peter Snow and Donald MacCormick. **11.25** *Weather*.
11.40 *World Snooker*. David Vine with an up-date of the day's play.
11.50 *Open University: Arts*. Foundation Course - Handel's *Messiah*. Ends at 12.20am.

ITV/LONDON

- 6.00** TV-am presented by Richard Keys. Includes news on the hour and half hour, weather, financial reports, travel and sports bulletins. After 10.00am, the programme is presented by Liz Pike. Why London's poor miss out on the BBC food mountain distribution; and the search for a cure for cot deaths.
6.15 *Winner Take All*. Family quiz game presented by Geoffrey Wheeler.
6.45 *News 6.00* *Thames news*.
6.50 *Reporting London* presented by Liz Pike. Why London's poor miss out on the BBC food mountain distribution; and the search for a cure for cot deaths.
7.00 *Nature Watch* with Julian Pattin. The story of the Siddle family in Zambia who have given over their lives and home to orphaned chimpanzees. (Oracle)
7.30 *Coronation Street*. Rita is having trouble with Alan's flash new image; and Mike Baldwin is in for a shock. (Oracle)
8.00 *All in Good Faith*. Comedy series starring Richard Briers as a vicar experiencing a mid-life crisis. (Oracle)
8.30 *World in Action: The Trial of Theresa*. (See Choice)
9.00 *Boon*. Harry books a country and western act for the hotel and falls foul of the band's manager (r). (Oracle)
10.00 *News at Ten* 10.30 *Thames news*.
10.35 *Hardcore: Live From Death Row*. Interviews with convicted killers including the mass murderer Charles Manson.
12.30am *Sportsworld Extra*. Tennis from Dallas and European football news.
2.00 *News headlines* followed by *Film: Splendor* (1935, byw) starring Miriam Hopkins and Joel McCrea. A story of a woman who cold shoulder when he doesn't marry the heiress of his mother's company. Directed by Elliott Nugent.
3.30 *The Twilight Zone: The Shadow Man*. A tale of the supernatural.
4.00 *News headlines* followed by *Talk*.
4.30 *Starring... The Actors*. Jane Alexander.
5.00 *ITV Morning News*. Ends at 5.00.
12.00 *Just 4 Fun*. Two programmes for children beginning with *The Golden Bird*, the first of a 13-part series of European folk stories followed by *Pop's Stories* with Roy Castle.
12.30 *Business Day*. A business and business news series presented by Susannah Simons.
1.00 *Sesame Street*. Pre-school learning series for children.
2.00 *The Late Late Show*. A music and chat show from Dublin, presented by Gay Byrne.
3.00 *Orpheus Through the Ages*. An exploration of the Orpheus myth through the ages in an animated film with Lesley Kean, *Orpheus* and *Eurydice* and a documentary *Orpheus Through the Ages*, which offers an introduction to the Orpheus myth. The film includes excerpts from Monteverdi's opera *Orfeo*, performed by the Scottish Early Music Consort, poetry by Reiner Maria Rilke and scenes from Orpheus plays by Euripides, Tennessee Williams and Jean Anouilh and Jean Cocteau's *Orpheus* (r).
4.00 *Mavis Nicholson* visits the home of Christopher Lloyd at Great Oulton in Kent. For more than three decades he has been writing about gardens and Great Dixter, famous for its box hedges and superb borders.
4.30 *Contestants*. Friday's winner is challenged by Gary Green, a retired greenkeeper from Horsham, Leeds. Richard Whitley is the questionmaster assisted in the dictionary corner by Clement Freud.
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CHANNEL 4

- 6.00** *Coping*. The first of a series showing how people from all walks of life have coped with the kind of problems that could affect anyone. Today's programme features Fred who collapsed 12 years ago when playing in a works football match. His kidneys had failed and since then he has depended on a home dialysis machine (r).
6.30 *Brookside*. At the Grants'. Barry receives an anonymous telephone call about his trees; Bobby is still trying to fight for the apprentices' jobs; and Sheila tells Father Gibbons about the problems in her marriage. (Oracle)
6.30 *Kate & Allie*. American comedy series starring Susan Saint James and Jane Carruth.
9.00 *Documentaries*. The second of the four-part documentary from Belgium in which Daniel Cohn-Bendit, 'Dany the Red', takes an emotional response of the upheavals of the late 1960s in Europe. Tonight's programme focuses on Michael Gherin who, in the 1960s and early 1970s, played a leading role in some of France's fiercest industrial disputes and on Barbara Kistner, then an Opel car factory manual worker, who is now active in the feminist movement in Frankfurt.
10.00 *Hill Street Blues*. The Hill houses a captured mass murderer as people who helped capture the man squabble over the reward money. Starring Daniel J. Travanti (Oracle)
11.00 *Film: The Day After Tomorrow* (1982) starring Philippe Clement. Representatives of the Red Cross visit a 'model' South American prison and meet some of the inmates. Directed by Gabriel Byrne.
12.30am *Through an Unknown Land*. A fictional portrait of contemporary Britain seen through the eyes of a working class family. Directed by Phil Mulloy (r). Ends at 1.45.

VARIATIONS

- BBC1 WALES** 6.35pm-6.00 News followed by *Neighbours* 11.30. Rugby Special 12.50pm-12.55 News and weather. **SCOTLAND** 10.30am-11.00 News. 11.00-11.30 *News at Ten*. 11.30-11.55 *News at Ten*. 11.55-12.00 *News at Ten*. 12.00-12.30 *News at Ten*. 12.30-12.55 *News at Ten*. 12.55-1.00 *News at Ten*. 1.00-1.30 *News at Ten*. 1.30-1.55 *News at Ten*. 1.55-2.00 *News at Ten*. 2.00-2.30 *News at Ten*. 2.30-2.55 *News at Ten*. 2.55-3.00 *News at Ten*. 3.00-3.30 *News at Ten*. 3.30-3.55 *News at Ten*. 3.55-4.00 *News at Ten*. 4.00-4.30 *News at Ten*. 4.30-5.00 *News at Ten*. 5.00-5.30 *News at Ten*. 5.30-6.00 *News at Ten*. 6.00-6.30 *News at Ten*. 6.30-7.00 *News at Ten*. 7.00-7.30 *News at Ten*. 7.30-8.00 *News at Ten*. 8.00-8.30 *News at Ten*. 8.30-9.00 *News at Ten*. 9.00-9.30 *News at Ten*. 9.30-10.00 *News at Ten*. 10.00-10.30 *News at Ten*. 10.30-11.00 *News at Ten*. 11.00-11.30 *News at Ten*. 11.30-11.55 *News at Ten*. 11.55-12.00 *News at Ten*. 12.00-12.30 *News at Ten*. 12.30-12.55 *News at Ten*. 12.55-1.00 *News at Ten*. 1.00-1.30 *News at 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Executive Editor
David Brewerton

STOCK MARKET

(Change on week)
FT 30 Share
1415.7 (+2.3)
FT-SE 100
1778.6 (-1.1)
Bargains
26144 (31521)
USM (Datastream)
146.88 (+1.82)

THE POUND

(Change on week)
US dollar
1.8880 (+0.0115)
W German mark
3.1931 (-0.0053)
Trade-weighted
78.3 (same)

Financial telephone service launched

The world's most technologically advanced and comprehensive financial information service, Stockwatch, is being launched today.

It is a sophisticated financial phone line providing its members with instant access to more than 10,000 up-to-date prices of shares and other investments, and is expected to fascinate anyone with an interest in the stock market or unit trusts.

Free membership of Stockwatch is available to readers of The Times, who will also, on application, be given a free telephone keypad. At the same time they will be given the opportunity to buy a tone dialling telephone at a discount, and the chance to win £50,000 via a daily competition.

Stockwatch is launched in conjunction with the British Telecom subsidiary, BT Citycall, which pioneered the financial phone line in 1985, and is generally acknowledged as the world leader in this field.

It provides up-to-the-second prices of some 3,000 shares, and constantly updated prices of 1,000 more. And from May 1 it will supply constantly updated prices of some 7,500 unit trusts, bonds and funds.

The service also has a portfolio valuation facility. All members will be issued with a personal password, which will enable them to construct their own portfolio within the Stockwatch computer. Thereafter an instant, up-to-date valuation will be constantly available.

Full details, page 29

Courtaulds fears buying by predator

Courtaulds this week hopes to discover who is behind the buying that chased its shares up 26p to 370p on Friday, when six million shares changed hands starting speculation that a predator was putting together a take-over bid.

Analysts, however, are far from convinced about the bid theory. Many point out that the textile sector generally has been selling at a too-generous discount to the market as a whole, and believe that Friday's buying was no more than a re-rating exercise.

Courtaulds shares are still selling for less than 8.5 times earnings, against the 13-plus average for the market as a whole.

If a bid does emerge it may well come from overseas, since much of the buying so far is understood to have emanated from abroad. Hoechst and Bayer, the two German groups, are in the frame, as is the American Du Pont group. At home Hanson, which is said to have expressed an interest in the past, is among the favourites.

Delta may be poised to buy

City analysts believe that Delta, the £400 million electrical equipment and metals group, is likely to step up its campaign to land a substantial acquisition after increasing speculation that a bidder is hot on its own tail.

Last summer's failed £70 million bid for George H. Scholes, the circuit-breaker specialist, was seen by many as a partly defensive ploy.

But it has had to turn its attention elsewhere. Now rumours of an aggressive move, possibly from RTZ, could make it speed up the process.

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Stock markets wait on battle over the dollar

By Graham Searjeant, Financial Editor

19 OCTOBER SIX MONTHS ON

Exactly six months after the stock market crash of October 19, dealers on financial markets are braced for another testing day today, as speculators and central banks battle over the exchange rate of the dollar.

Poor US trade figures knocked 101 points off Wall Street's Dow Jones industrial average on Thursday, but share prices in London and New York stabilized on Friday, leaving the Dow above the psychological 2,000 mark.

But after last week's swift slide in the dollar against all other leading currencies, the resolve of central banks to continue large-scale intervention in support of the currency will be closely watched this morning.

City analysts regard the fate of the dollar as crucial to share prices and interest rates.

Mr Jeffrey Thompson of BZW said: "The direction of other markets depends on whether the bearish view of the dollar prevails in the Far East."

The Bank of Japan is widely expected to intervene actively if necessary to stop the dollar falling far below ¥124, but some dealers are already assuming the dollar will eventually fall to ¥120 or lower.

"New York is still fragile," said Mr Stephen Lewis of Phillips & Drew. "But the central banks will continue to support the dollar. They cannot give up that easily."

"The dollar cannot be rescued by an agreement between the White House and Congress this time. The banks have to stick at it, and when the speculators realize that, they will pull back from attacking the dollar for now."

After the meeting of world financial leaders in Washington last week, finance ministers said they would continue support to stabilize the dollar. But Mr Onno Ruding, the Dutch finance minister, said this could not go on forever. There will be pressure on Mr Alan Greenspan, chairman of the US Federal Reserve Board, to raise the discount rate by 1 per cent if central bank buying fails to revive the dollar.

Share prices in London are likely to be marked down modestly this morning as market-makers test the reaction of investors.

Even bearish analysts are not expecting further sharp falls in the short term. "The FT-SE 100 share index will probably sag but not plunge," said Mr Thompson. "I expect the Dow to trade between 1,900 and 2,000 for the rest of the month." Mr Charles Larkum of James Capel said Thursday's share plunge was just an unthinking reaction.

Now Guinness inquiry expands to cover Bell

By Lawrence Lever

The Department of Trade and Industry's investigation into Guinness has expanded to cover alleged insider dealing in the takeover of Arthur Bell & Sons.

The DTI-appointed inspectors are believed to be investigating large purchases of shares in Arthur Bell & Sons, made shortly before Guinness announced a takeover bid for the company in May 1985.

The Bell share purchases under scrutiny appear to have been co-ordinated by one man who, apart from a small share purchase, did not use his own name.

The Stock Exchange is understood to have investigated the purchases and passed information on to the DTI inspectors, who have

wider powers than the exchange, such as that of interviewing witnesses on oath.

The Fraud Squad is also believed to be focusing some of its efforts on investigating alleged insider dealing. These investigations could lead to criminal charges.

Other share dealings are also under investigation by the Guinness inspectors, the Fraud Squad and the Stock Exchange.

These include purchases of shares in Matthew Brown, ahead of a bid for the brewer from Scottish & Newcastle Breweries, and purchases of H Samuel shares before a bid for the company from Rainers, the jewellery group, in May 1986.

Department of Trade

inspectors have recently interviewed Mr Pat Townsend, the former chairman of Matthew Brown. Sources close to the DTI have suggested that it was the Guinness inspectors who conducted the interview. There is no suggestion that Mr Townsend has been involved in any wrongdoing.

It had originally been thought that the interview was part of a separate investigation into insider dealing by civil servants.

The Guinness inspectors have already interviewed more than 120 witnesses since their appointment in December 1986 and accumulated 60 volumes of evidence.

The investigation is still continuing, with further witnesses being interviewed

BP bonanza in new wave of North Sea oil finds

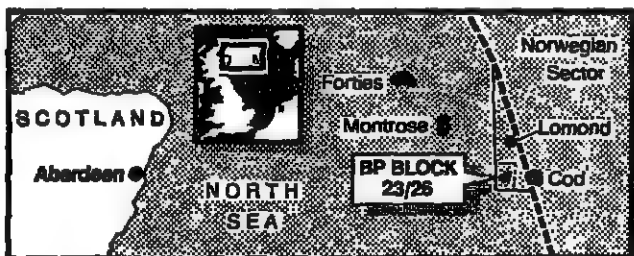
By David Young
Energy Correspondent

BP is understood to be sitting on a potentially large North Sea oil discovery in its block 23/26, East of Aberdeen.

The oil group has refused to comment on the results of its exploration work but 10 wells have been completed on the block. BP is believed to be planning to announce that the oil reserves on the block will be added to its list of projects for board investment approval.

Industry sources suggest the new field, if confirmed, could rival Britain's Forth project or Enterprise Oil's Nelson field. Either of these discoveries could produce up to 100,000 barrels a day.

The two discoveries, plus BP's prospect, confirm that the new wave of North Sea exploration and development forecast by Mr Peter Morrison, the Minister of State for Energy, is well under way.



Figures soon to be announced by the Government will show that Britain is adding to its usable North Sea oil and gas reserves at a steady rate. Several new oil developments, which will create jobs in the offshore construction yards in Scotland and the North-east, are likely to be announced in the coming year.

The pace of development in the offshore gas industry is also likely to be stepped up as supply contracts for the next decade are placed with oil companies that are increasingly using British-developed

sub-sea technology to bring into production smaller off-shore gas fields discovered several years ago, but considered uneconomic to develop.

Amoco has also announced that it has completed a successful appraisal well in the Drake area of the southern North Sea. It has used the jack-up rig Mr Mac, and tested substantial flows of gas and gas condensate. Amoco, the operator for the block, which is half owned by British Gas, has said it has "been encouraged" by the results and is now planning further appraisal drilling.

AMERICAN NOTEBOOK

Currency crisis fosters trouble

From Maxwell Newton
New York

Another sickening lurch in the dollar on Thursday and Friday reminded those who had forgotten, that the US cannot expect to enjoy continued, painless, growth of the economy and of debt.

This uncomfortable fact has been brushed aside in the growing optimism since Christmas. The October crash, it was implied, was some sort of aberration that could be dismissed from sensible thoughts.

The Group of Seven meeting on Wednesday exuded complacency.

The Federal Reserve had rapidly expanded banks' reserves in January — a mistake that began the rot in bonds and the currency in February/April.

But by now, the sanguine self-satisfaction that had spread over all "consensus" thinking in the March quarter has been brutally broken by

the February trade deficit of \$13.8 billion (£7.5 billion), indicating a continued strong surge of imports.

Both the Administration and the Fed may now be secretly relieved at any indication of moderating expansion. The excessive growth rate of the past year has produced a currency crisis that could easily explode into another important stock market crash. Such a crash would hit the already staggering US financial apparatus, overlaid with debt and creaking under the stress of a wounded banking system.

Fortunately, there are some signs of moderation in the midst of the overwhelming "consensus" optimism that has yet again encouraged a naive belief that America will be allowed to go on piling up foreign debt without limit.

US industrial production, which had risen at an annualized rate of 7 per cent between June and December 1987, rose at a rate of only 1.5

per cent between December and March.

Payroll employment figures have revealed that the growth rate of "goods producing" employment, which had been an annualized 4 per cent between June and December 1987, fell to 2.5 per cent between December and March.

The markets are imposing the discipline that the White House and the Federal Reserve have refused to supply. Mr George Bush will be very fortunate if his run to the Presidency is not broken by events which are now taking control and against which the official policy instruments offer little or no protection.

The stock market's 101-point plunge on Thursday showed that continued domestic economic expansion, trumpeted by the White House, is not the friend of today's America but the enemy that can and will destroy the foundations of future stable economic growth in the 1990s.

Revolt by institutional holders on shares sale



Controversial stake: Mike Luckwell at home at Worplesdon, Surrey, yesterday

TV-am disposal queried

By Joe Joseph

The 15 per cent stake built up in TV-am by Saudi interests will today become the focus of fresh controversy when minority shareholders in Beaverbrook Investments, the vehicle used by the Saudis to buy into the television station, protest to the City's Takeover Panel over how part of the Saudi holding has been sold.

The revolt by institutional shareholders, who feel they have been short-changed by the deal, is likely to prolong the uncertainty hanging over the affairs of TV-am. The uproar led to the resignation of Mr Jonathan Aitken MP, as a TV-am director, and the departure of his cousin, Timothy, as chairman.

The controversy was re-kindled last Thursday when Beaverbrook, led by Mr Jonathan Aitken and Mr John Hemmingway but controlled by the Saudi company Al Bilad, sold a 5 per cent stake in TV-am, meeting a request by the Independent Broadcasting Authority to reduce its stake below 10 per cent.

The shareholding fell for £4.64 million, or 14.2p a share, to Mr Mike Luckwell, former managing director of and largest shareholder in Carlin Communications, the television services company.

Mr Luckwell said yesterday: "I have spoken today to John Hemmingway, who says that third parties are trying to make waves but that there is no question of the deal not going through."

But Beaverbrook's minority shareholders — which include Commercial Union and Municipal Mutual — want to revoke the sale in favour of a takeover bid for Beaverbrook by Quantum, an offshore fund managed by Mr George Soros, the Wall Street financier. Quantum, which owns about 7 per cent of TV-am and is the second largest shareholder in Beaverbrook, has offered 170p a share for Beaverbrook.

Since more than 90 per cent of Beaverbrook's assets are its 15 per cent holding in TV-am, the institutions say last week's sale price to Mr Luckwell of 14.2p values Beaverbrook at 158-159p a share.

The fight against the sale is being headed by Mr Mervyn Greenway, of Capel-Cure Myers, the broker. He said: "I am questioning whether the board of Beaverbrook, which also represents the Saudi interests, acted independently in making the decision to sell to Luckwell or refuse the Quantum offer."

Mr David Nabarro, of Prudential Bache Capital Funding (Equities), which acts for Quantum, said yesterday: "We're all hopping mad with Jonathan's behaviour."

P&P set for £50m valuation

By Carol Ferguson

P&P, a computer company that has grown from nothing to a turnover of £70 million in eight years, is coming to the market this week by way of a placing.

Mr and Mrs Pete and Pam Fisher, the P&P of the company's name, started selling Apple-related products from their South London home in 1980, and now jointly own 80 per cent of a group that is likely to be valued at about £50 million when dealings start.

P&P is primarily a distributor of microprocessing equipment, selling it wholesale to dealers who in turn sell it to end-users. Half its sales are personal computers (PCs) supplied by IBM, the largest PC manufacturer, Amstrad, the lowest cost, and Compaq, the number one IBM "clone" manufacturer.

P&P also deals directly with a small number of large users of micro-computers, including ICI and Rolls-Royce. Pretax profits for the year to November 28, 1987 were £4.2 million, double the previous year's result.

Mr David Southworth, P&P's managing director, says the market for micros is growing at 30 per cent a year, and he expects this to continue until 1991.

The company is now developing a partnership with Apple Computers to improve the quality of the Apple market-place which, Mr Southworth says, is still very diverse.

After the full listing, in which 25 per cent of mainly new shares will be placed with institutions, the founders, who are disposing of only a very small number of shares, will be left with 60 per cent.

Cash raised will repay debt, currently standing at £3.5 million, increase working capital as the company grows, and fund acquisitions.

The shares will be listed on the main market.

Barclays faces US storm over £921m cash call

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

Barclays Bank is set to run into a further storm of criticism over its £921 million rights issue this week when Mr Brian Pierce, the bank's finance director, flies to the US to meet American investors.

While British institutions are certain to accept the issue, however reluctantly, US investors unused to subscribing large amounts of capital to banks are expected to be more vociferous in their opposition. Responsibility for selling the issue in New York will fall on Goldman Sachs, Shearson Lehman and Salomon Brothers, which handled previous Barclays issues in the US.

Barclays says it has no idea how many US investors own its shares because many institutions hold them through nominee companies in Britain. Many investors, however, own shares in the form of American depository receipts which carry the same rights as ordinary shares.

In London, Barclays faces the embarrassment of a Stock Exchange inquiry into heavy dealings in its shares the day

before the rights issue was announced on April 7.

The issue was not underwritten by City institutions. This would normally reduce the risk of leaks.

There were nonetheless strong rumours and some City brokers claim to have heard about the issue a week before it was announced. They suggest the leak may have come from informal conversations between Barclays and institutional shareholders. Ironically, Barclays share price rose slightly the day before the announcement.

Barclays is, however, relieved that the likelihood of a revolt among British institutional shareholders against the issue has receded, although several institutions expressed strong reservations during meetings with the bank last week. The most commonly held view, in the words of one shareholder, is: "A vote against the rights issue would be the same as a vote of no confidence in the Barclays management, and we don't want to go that far."

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City faces a long and rough road to recovery

In the six months since the Crash of '87, the City has had to adapt to more than just lower share prices. Insider dealing and dubious takeovers have taken their toll on its reputation

19 OCTOBER SIX MONTHS ON

Some ostriches in the City have not yet given up hoping that they may soon be able to resume play according to the old familiar rules, under which everybody won, but some won more than others. Most, however, have come to accept that the texture of life in the City has changed decisively since the stock markets crash.

For many share dealers, bankers and the investors for whom they acted, memories of Monday, October 19, 1987 have become as painful and vivid as the day gunshots rang out through Dallas in November 1963. It was the day the music, the envy of overpaid yuppies and the biggest bull market ever, finally died.

As business dries up and blame is cast, jobs in the City have become as secure as

bivouacs in a storm. Thousands of dealers' desks in London and Wall Street are empty and the bloodletting is far from over. "Outplacement" agencies, the fancy employment counsellors who advise those whose red Ferraris were repossessed even before the warranties ran out, are the boom industry.

London's financial quarter hums daily with news of the latest disaster, one day it is a young trainee accountant who has run up millions in debts in the options markets; another it is dealing losses suffered by big stockbrokers caught out by the suddenness of the stock market's descent, or the departure of top men cursed for their subordinates' financial sins.

Last October was not the first time the world's bourses suffered from vertigo, although the severity of the fall had not been matched since the great Crash of 1929. That, too, had laid waste a generation that believed the cham-



Gloom and doom: panic selling in Wall Street on Black Monday while, right, in London dealers pause for breath

pagne days would never end. The latest whirlwind to whistle through Wall Street and London last week gathered its momentum by hitting a City already in turmoil. News of the crash has had to jostle for headline space with other scandals convulsing the Square Mile.

Investigations into the il-

legal activities in New York of Ivan Boesky, the fallen Wall Street financier, were followed by arrests here. Since then, some of the City's most famous names have been charged in the Guinness affair, and further arrests are expected. Three City accountants will be in court on insider dealing charges this month. If gold rusts, what

might iron do, ask the sceptics. A year ago, most people had never heard of insider dealing. Now taxi drivers freely lecture one on the technicalities as each week brings news of another inquiry by Department of Trade and Industry inspectors into possible abuse of privileged stock market information.

Renewed interest by the City's watchdogs in large takeover bids has dragged some of Britain's top corporate names through the mangle. Government inspectors have been asking questions about Burton's takeover of the Debenhams department store group in 1985, although there has been no suggestion that Burton's directors acted illegally.

The public's tarnished perception of City morality was further eroded when details emerged that Dixons, the electrical retailer, had hired private eyes to snoop on the private lives of executives of Woolworth during a hostile £1.8 billion takeover tussle launched and lost in 1986.

The breadth of the surveillance further shocked the City's ancient regime, which had long grown used to its increasingly rough trade becoming ridiculed in plays such as Caryl Churchill's *Serious Money* and films like the newly released *Wall Street*, which portray greed as the oxygen of financial life.

The lingering pain of the stock market crash, blended with the Guinness affair and the spreading rash of insider dealing, has redefined the public's view of life in London's financial world. When Geoffrey Collier, a former director of Morgan Grenfell, one of Britain's top merchant banks, was handed a fine rather than a jail term after admitting insider dealing, the news was commonly greeted with sadness, not relief.

Being "something in the City" is no longer automatic grounds for admiration — a painful enough adjustment for many older stockbrokers, who have been forced to adapt to early-morning conferences and lunchtime sandwiches

snatched between telephone calls. To read opinion polls showing the public regards the City's natives as little more honest than snake oil salesmen in the old Wild West adds salt to the wound.

The patient is still far from well. A quick recovery appears unlikely, especially when so many onlookers who gasped, disbelieving, as stockbrokers' salaries climbed as frantically as the score on a pinball machine — now watch the City's come-uppance with joy. Moreover, there remains much to unfold.

The daily volume of business on the Stock Exchange is still too thin to support the large staffs built up in the dizzy rush towards Big Bang.

The DTI and the Fraud Squad are still gnawing away quietly at various unnamed company files; their findings, if any, will dazzle intermittently like sputtering fireworks for some time yet as details leak, officially and unofficially, to the public.

The defendants in the Guinness trial were, in court again last week and will return there soon at the leisurely pace at which such complex prosecutions progress. The revelations could well fill pages in the financial pages into the next decade.

Joe Joseph

USM REVIEW

Share price setback in junior market has not deterred the newcomer

19 OCTOBER SIX MONTHS ON

Share prices on the Unlisted Securities Market have, overall, suffered significantly more than fully-quoted shares in the six months since Black Monday. A comparison of the Datastream USM index with the FT-SE 100 index since October 16 — the Friday before the crash — shows that USM prices have declined by 35 per cent while main market prices have suffered a 21 per cent setback.

But although USM capitalizations might have taken more of a knock than their bigger brethren, the market has come through virtually unscathed in all other respects.

Using hospital terminology, Hoare Govett, the stockbroker, says the subject has fared somewhere between "as well as can be expected" and "comfortable."

"It did suffer initially because people thought it would be affected by a lack of liquidity but, as it turned out, that did not affect it," says Mr Graham Cole, the USM partner at Deloitte Haskins & Sells, the accountancy firm.

Statistics compiled by Deloitte show that while the average price-earnings ratio of companies on the USM has fallen by about a third from 21 to 13 since Black Monday, this has not deterred companies from making their USM debut. Some 36 companies have been floated on the USM in the past six months, only three less than in the preceding six months.

"Most entrepreneurs seem to have come to terms with the new relative values being placed on their companies by the market, and it is encouraging that the number of companies coming to the USM in the last couple of months is more than the backlog of those issues postponed in 1987," says Mr Cole.

"There will be a whole raft of USM floats coming out in the next two to three weeks and, if anything, the pace of new enquiries has quickened," he adds.

Deloitte's research shows that the quality of those new companies making their first tentative approaches about a possible USM float has also improved dramatically.

"I think that is because a lot more is known about the USM now," says Mr Cole.

"They know what the basic requirements are and they are

coming to us better prepared. It means that when we come to do the long form report we tend not to find any proprietorial naughties anymore — although that does make it rather boring," he jests.

One such newcomer is Moorfield Estates, a company founded in 1983 to acquire the property interests of its four founder directors — Messrs Tony Phillips, David Edelman, Geoff Hoffman and Ken Jackson.

In the year to end-October, Moorfield made profits of £613,000 on £7.5 million turnover. Although its impact day is not until tomorrow, it is expected to be launched on a p.e. of no more than 13 and at a price of about 120p a share. Dealings will begin on April 26.

Epwin Group, which was floated just six months before

— on October 16 — the day of the hurricane, the shares touched an all-time high of 995p. Like everyone else Blenheim suffered in the crash dropping to the 400p level. They closed at 470p last Friday.

But Mr Lewis does not have a lot to grumble about — he has used Blenheim's strong share price to good effect, making at least six acquisitions since the company went public.

The crash, however, not only played havoc with those companies that already had a quote, it also caused problems for those that were on the verge of obtaining one.

Copymore, the office equipment supplier, was one such casualty. It was due to make its debut towards the end of October but was forced to postpone it. It eventually took its bow in February but only after scaling down the terms of the issue with a placing of shares at 130p.

The price scored a 15p premium in early trading but closed on Friday at 126p.

Mr Jeff Godbold and Mr Claudio Sarno, joint managing directors of Copymore, are

USM prices — 28

nevertheless bullish about the company's prospects. Last week they were showing their wares at the Secretary Show in London.

Copymore is making strenuous efforts to attract the attention of the office secretary whose standing in the world of commerce has been growing steadily in recent years.

"In the area of office equipment and supplies the secretary now has a lot of influence with her employer about the type of equipment to order," says Mr Godbold.

One man who has turned the bear market to his benefit is Mr Bob Morton, nicknamed "Big, Bad Bobby Bear" by his friends in the City. He is the deputy chairman of RHP Group and last month took over control of the troubled F&H Group.

Last week Mr Morton announced details of an acquisition for his other USM-vehicle, Hatfield Estates, the construction group. He paid £128,000 for the loss-making High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, which will be financed by the issue of 100,000 Hatfield shares. Kingham has a turnover of more than £3 million a year and a £2 million order book.

Carol Leonard

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Preliminary Announcement

Year ended 31st December 1987

	1987	1986	% Change
Profit before tax	£155.0m	£127.0m	+22.0
Earnings per share	47.7p	38.3p	+24.5
Dividends	15.0p	11.5p	+30.4

- UK Cement profits increased by 58 per cent, reflecting a more streamlined and dynamic operation.
- Home Products profits through Armitage Shanks increased by 27 per cent, highlighting Blue Circle's commitment to achieving leadership in this market.
- UK Property Division profits doubled.
- In the United States, apart from readymix concrete in Atlanta, profits generally remained strong.
- In Chile and Mexico, both volumes and profits increased.

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ANALYSIS

Stock markets struggle to exorcize the ghost of 1929

19 OCTOBER SIX MONTHS ON

Share prices fell by a seventh on the London Stock Exchange on Black Monday. At the end of the working day, dealers and investors knew the long 1980s bull market in shares was over. By the end of the evening, that was old hat.

As New York's day unfolded, Wall Street's slide of the previous week accelerated crazily as each further fall triggered computers programmed to sell stock and share index futures to protect big portfolios from further losses.

When the market closed, share prices had dropped by almost a quarter in a single day. By then, the talk was only of 1929, when a stock market collapse, apparently out of the blue, transformed US prosperity into the Thirties slump.

On Tuesday, October 20, 1987, Hong Kong closed its market for the week and City bookshops ran out of copies of Professor JK Galbraith's classic book on the great Crash. Ever since, fear of the "1929 scenario" has lurked at the back of the markets' collective consciousness.

That was one reason why New York dealers in particular, were nervous about today's semi-anniversary of Black Monday. In 1929, share prices quickly lost 40 per cent of their value, jumped back, then spent the spring recovering half their losses.

But in April 1930, just when confidence was returning, the recovery petered out and prices started falling again. They did not stop for another two years. By then, shares had lost four-fifths of their value.

By last Wednesday, the Dow had regained half the 30 per cent drop in the week culminating in Black Monday. The recovery had to survive this nervous period before its participants could finally exorcize the ghost of 1929.

The superstition lingers. Thursday's plunge in the dollar, set off by the contrast between the US trade figures and the complacency of world financial leaders in Washington, showed that Wall Street could still panic. It has set confidence back.

That has happened before. On January 8, the Dow fell 140 points during another attack on the dollar which the central banks eventually fought off to great effect. Thereafter, the New York Stock Exchange adopted a voluntary 50-point daily limit at which level index arbitrage trading through the exchange computer system was switched off for the day.

The superdot regime was tried on the downside for the first time on Thursday. It prevented a progressive collapse in the last hour's trading but did not stop other forms of selling, which left the index more than 100 points lower.

Share price in London have been chained by an anchor to Wall Street this year. As long as the shadow of 1929 persists, therefore, it is just as important to spot the differences as to dwell on the similarities.

Changed market structures, which put big institutions to the fore instead of individual speculators, have been much remarked.

As the Chancellor said last

week, however, the biggest difference is that the October crash has, thus far, proved to be a "non-economic event." After October, forecasters prudently cut their predictions for economic growth. But, outside the securities business and the financial district, nothing untoward happened.

Consumers did not stop buying, business did not halt expansion plans and, thanks to the authorities' swift and intelligent response, there was no string of failures among securities firms, banks or their customers. By March, financial analysts and international organizations had restored their economic growth forecasts and even raised them.

The share price recovery of 1930 was reversed by the economic effects of 1929, rather than by some mysterious force. Few such effects have appeared in 1988.

Big investors, having been reassured by the swift international action last autumn, including the crucial deal over the US budget deficit between the White House and Congress, now worry that nothing has really changed.

But that is cause for adjustment rather than headlong flight. It was, after all, selling in Tokyo which sparked off the New Year relapse as the dollar plunged against the yen while Japan's central bankers were on holiday.

Yet the Tokyo stock market, alone among all leading world markets, has shrugged off the crash completely. Prices hit records last week.

Share prices are, finally, a product of investors' expectations for the trend of interest rates and company profits. Those calculations are applied to a flow of savings. And the result is faced with confidence, which can be affected by anything from political uncertainty to fear of history.

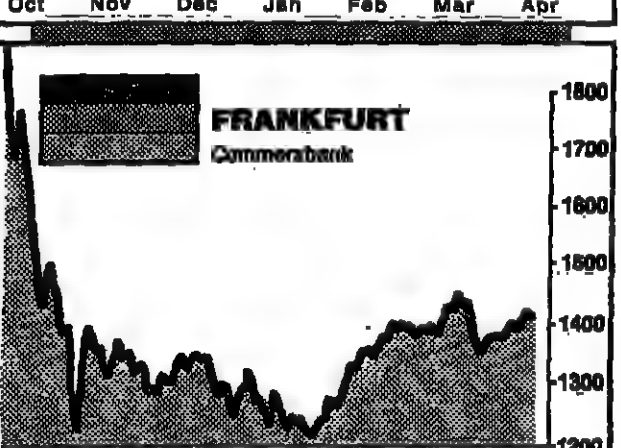
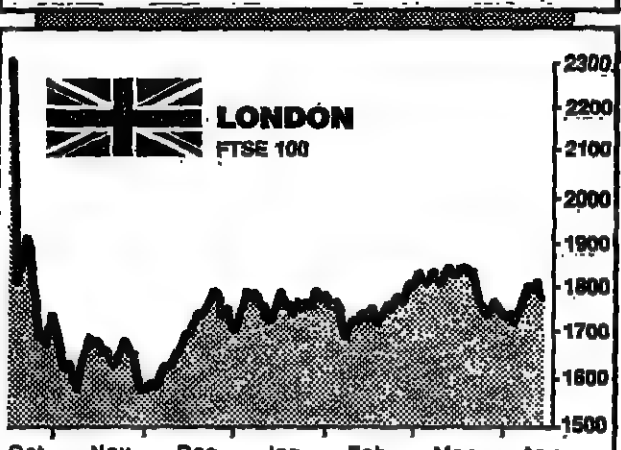
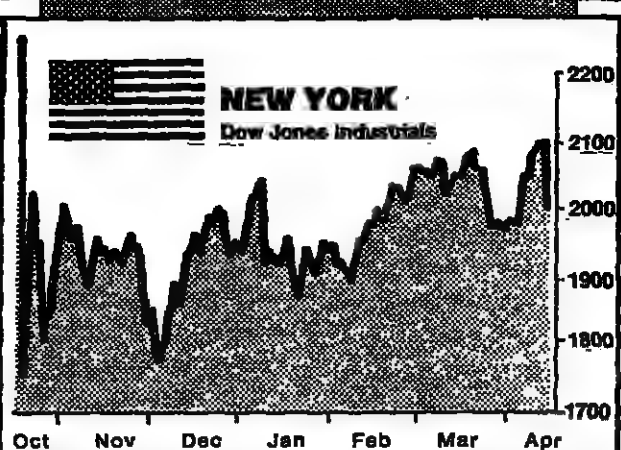
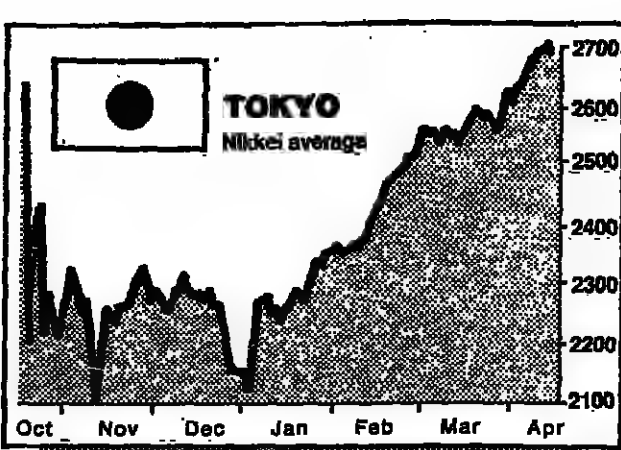
Attempts to resurrect confidence after October had varying success. Hong Kong's attempt to stop the rot by closing its markets backfired. In London, the Stock Exchange and the Government insisted that nothing much had happened on the principle that if one pretended there was no problem it would go away.

In New York and Washington, great inquests were held, blame apportioned and measures proposed. In Tokyo, where the stock markets are seen as part of Japan Inc, support was organized and regulations adjusted to help demand for shares and obviate any need for sales.

Everywhere except Tokyo, confidence remains severely dented. Sentiment has changed a bull market into a bear market. Instead of viewing price falls as an opportunity to buy, investors see rises as a chance to take their profits or recoup their losses. Investors fear losing money by holding shares instead of missing profits by holding cash.

Bears fear a second leg of falling markets next year, when a new US president will have to cut demand or raise interest rates to adjust the unbalanced US economy — or be seen to be doing nothing. Today, the prospect for interest rates and company profits in most leading countries looks neither better, nor noticeably worse, than a year ago.

Graham Searjeant
Financial Editor



Tokyo leads equity revival

Within a month of Black Monday, foreign investors on the Tokyo Stock Exchange sold half their holdings. They were scared.

Shares had soared, but by last autumn, they sold at an average 63 times company earnings, three times the rating in New York and four times that in London or Frankfurt. Surely this was a bubble ready to burst.

On April 7, Tokyo became the first market in the world to recover all its losses since the crash and touch a record.

Japanese investors never lost confidence and foreigners are returning, convinced that "Tokyo is a different planet." It is not. Twice before, share prices have quadrupled in five years, then lost a third of their gains in the next five.

The world's leading share market, worth more than 40 per cent of the total, reflects the same interplay of forces. Outside Tokyo, that has left prices anything from 15 per cent below pre-crash levels to more than 30 per cent lower in Hong Kong and Australia, beset by scandals and tumbling company pyramids.

Tokyo had momentum, reaching a new high as the crash struck. Helped by official "guidance" to investment houses, shares dropped less than 12 per cent in the initial panic. London passed its peak in July, New York and Frankfurt in August.

Last year, British savings fell to their lowest in 30 years. The inflow to pension funds, the biggest share buyers, dried up because of contribution holidays. US savings are so low that markets rely on foreign, mainly Japanese, savers.

In Japan, savings are high and moving into domestic shares.

The US economy faces slower growth and probably higher interest rates. West Germany is still sluggish. Japan, initially worst hit by the rising yen, is growing strongly, through construction and finance.

Britain is growing too and interest rates have fallen, yet share prices are still 23 per cent down over six months. Dealers should follow Tokyo's lead in the morning rather than worry what New York might do in the afternoon.

ECONOMIC VIEW

World economy takes the fall-out in its stride

19 OCTOBER SIX MONTHS ON

Finance ministers and central bankers of the Group of Seven nations must be getting used to seeing Armageddon break out in the world's financial markets a day or two after they have pronounced peace in our time. After the experience of Black Monday, less than three weeks after the reaffirmation of exchange rate stability last autumn, we saw an even quicker turnaround last week when poor US trade figures knocked 3 pennings off the dollar and 101 points off Wall Street less than 24 hours after the G7 had again opined that excessive fluctuation in the dollar would be counter-productive.

This must be embarrassing for even the most thick-skinned of ministers and officials. But, undesirable as such financial turbulence is, six months on from the October crash it may trouble governments less than it did then. For the verdict must be that so far, the effects of the massive correction in stock market prices have been much less than anticipated and that the world's leading economies have proved more resilient than feared.

In theory two effects could be expected from the fall in stock market prices. A reduction in shareholders' wealth would encourage higher savings and lower spending to repair the damage — this is the so-called "wealth effect." Secondly, because the cost of capital would rise as the yield on equities increased, company investment would slow down. At the same time there would be severe effects on individual countries as their export industries adjusted to the big fall in the dollar.

None of these effects has so far proved anything like as pronounced as expected. The increase in the cost of equity capital has been largely offset by cuts in the cost of debt finance as monetary authorities around the world cut their interest rates. In Britain, for instance, the last survey by the Confederation of British Industry showed that investment intentions are still very buoyant.

There has certainly been a wealth effect, at least in the US where it was most expected, but there are signs that it is already beginning to wear off. In the final quarter of last year US consumer spending dropped by about 1/2 per cent following strong growth earlier in the year — though as the peak came in August consumers may already have been drawing in their horns.

But last week's retail sales figures for March suggest that there has been

a revival during the first quarter of this year. Credit Suisse First Boston, for instance, estimates that consumer spending may have grown by about 0.8 per cent lifting it back above the third quarter of last year. The latest forecast by the International Monetary Fund predicts GNP growth of 2.9 per cent in the US this year compared with the 2.7 per cent it forecast in October just before the crash. This hardly looks like slump.

In Britain likewise, growth prospects have, if anything, improved since last October. Savings have remained low and consumer spending high. The IMF is now forecasting growth of 3 per cent this year — the same as the Treasury — compared with its over-pessimistic 2.3 per cent last autumn.

Economists in Germany never expected the crash to have any very direct influence. But they did expect world trade to decelerate as demand slowed in the US and they expected the fall in the dollar to make life very difficult for Germany's exporters. Pessimism about the German economy gathered pace during the final quarter of last year until the expectation of 2 per cent-2 1/2 per cent growth in 1988 which had been common at the end of the summer had been scaled down to only 1 per cent-1 1/2 per cent around the turn of the year.

As it turns out, the contraction of demand in the US has been less than expected. German industry has adapted to the lower dollar and demand in Europe as a whole has substituted for some of the lost demand in the US. Herr Gerhard Stoltenberg, the German finance minister, is now once again forecasting growth of more than 2 per cent.

Japan has perhaps been the biggest surprise of all. Uniquely among the main stock markets Tokyo has recently regained and surpassed its pre-crash peaks so one would not expect lower share prices to have much effect. But the Japanese did expect to be hit hard by the fall in the dollar, which is now about 15 per cent lower against the yen compared with a fall of 8 per cent against the mark.

In the event, Japanese companies have taken the lower dollar in their stride. At the same time domestic demand has been given a big fiscal boost, and consequently the IMF has raised its growth forecast from 3.4 per cent to 4.1 per cent.

Another bout of financial turbulence is highly undesirable. But the worst fears which followed Black Monday have proved unfounded so far.

Rodney Lord
Economics Editor

US exchanges in united front to answer critics

19 OCTOBER SIX MONTHS ON

Mr John Phelan, the unflappable chairman of the New York Stock Exchange, spends as much time in Washington as he does in New York these days, testifying to an impatient Congress on what has been done to avoid another traumatic market crash. It was therefore not surprising that when the trade deficit tremors shook the markets last week, causing Wall Street to plunge by 101 points in its fifth worst decline, Mr Phelan was again in a crowded hearing room, making a rare public appearance with Mr Leo Melamed, the chairman of the

Chicago Mercantile Exchange.

Last week's message was similar to Wall Street's appeal in the 1930s. Both Mr Phelan and Mr Melamed warned Congress not to pass comprehensive legislation that would retard the free flow of resources, so handicapping their markets that business would be driven overseas. Both exchanges have taken self-corrective measures designed to head off a heavy-handed response from Washington. In an unusual display of harmony, the exchanges were actually co-ordinating some of their self-regulatory efforts to answer the recommendations of critics that there was only one, integrated market.

Congress remained impatient for more public action.

But Mr Phelan said the pattern of trading since the crash was evidence that self-regulation was working. He said when the market plummeted by 140 points in January, a shock went through the system, but there was no financial or systemic crisis. Mechanisms to prevent one were in place.

Gilt-Edged 31

Even as the market plummeted, the two exchange officials revealed they were developing the ultimate "circuit-breaker", a co-ordinated plan to shut down all trading in stocks and stock index futures whenever the Dow Jones industrial average moved up or down in a range of 200 to 300 points.

"You have got to let the market set its own level but there comes a time when a systemic halt, a safety net that is known in advance, is helpful," Mr Phelan said.

The NYSE has instituted a new rule to dampen volatility, placing a 50-point "collar" or limit on computerized program trading whenever the

Melamed insisted that the largest holes in the system exposed by the October crash had been plugged.

Among measures on the Chicago Merc, security deposits have been increased tenfold since last October to ensure sufficient capital. And speculative margin has been increased to a 15 per cent. On the NYSE, the electronic system that was severely strained during the 600 million volume day in October has been expanded by 23 per cent.

Dealer capital requirements have been tripled and the specialist (market-maker) system, which performed erratically in October, is being overhauled. Firms found wanting lost their ability to make markets in specific shares.

Exchange officials claim that these voluntary steps are sufficient to restore confidence while broader studies of liquidity and financial flows are carried out.

Broader proposals for intra-market circuit-breakers and a "super regulator", notably the Federal Reserve Board, to have the final say on market activities, are not likely to be addressed until next year — or until there is another crash.

"Given the events of last week, which showed us that the system is still fragile, I think it is very premature to state that there will be no congressional action this year," said Congressman John Markey, chairman of the House finance subcommittee.

Bailey Morris

Time to banish City blues

Reports of recession in the City have, it seems, been grossly exaggerated. According to Noel de Berry, managing director of management consultant and City head-hunting specialist Noel Alexander Associates, the popular press has painted a totally misleading picture. "Foreigners, who have read newspaper reports, come over here expecting to see the unemployed standing on every street corner in the City, with second-hand Porsches for sale in all the garages," he says. "But it just isn't like that. There may have been job losses as firms redefine their areas of operation after the rapid expansion that preceded Big Bang, but most people who have supposedly 'lost' their jobs are immediately reallocated jobs within the same firm or other, expanding areas of operation." De Berry tells me that he and his colleagues have repeatedly attempted to head-hunt individuals after City firms have announced large-scale job losses, only to find they are not available. "London is continuing to grow as a financial centre and overall the number of jobs in the City has increased," he says. "That rate of increase may have slowed down but it is, nevertheless, still increasing." His company's figures say foreign financial institutions in London — banks and securities houses — rose from 605 in 1986 to 618 last year.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Bernie's accumulator

As the 55 market-makers at Hoare Govett decide how to spend their £24,000 winnings from the Stock Exchange Grand National draw, their erstwhile leader, Bernie Leaver — who starts as managing director of Shearson's equity division next Monday — tells me he is still owed his share of the money. "I actually organized it all before I left to try

to boost morale," Bernie tells me. "But they haven't let me have the cheque yet." Joking aside, he says they could save the money to put on next year's Derby if a horse by the appropriate post-Black Monday name of "Where's the money gone" is racing. It is, after all, owned by a syndicate including Leaver and four of his former Hoare colleagues.

Michael Cocklin (former partner in Pinchin Denny), an experienced and widely respected market-maker. They could never be described as "underperformers" and left Morgan Grenfell with best wishes and agreeable redundancy packages. My apologies to all concerned if anyone misunderstood the original piece.

Keep your hair on

Chris Wright, the chairman of Chrysalis, the quoted record company, would be the first to admit he does not exactly possess a proud head of hair. And what there is could, I hear, be in jeopardy, a matter which is causing him some concern. The reason for his concern lies in the success of one of the label's protégés — the singer Sinead O'Connor, who happens to be bald. When her latest album, *Lion and the Cobra*, was released in the US, the head of the company's American operations, Mike Bone, was sceptical about its chances of making it in a big way. And he apparently backed his belief by agreeing to shave his full head of hair if the album sold more than 50,000 copies. In fact, it has sold more than 250,000 — as Bone's bald pate bears testimony. Not to be outdone, Wright has promised to give his barber *carte blanche* to run amok with his remaining locks if the album sells 1 million. "Quite frankly, I am starting to get rather nervous," said Wright. "I would really like to hold on to what little hair I've got."

Carol Leonard

Notice of Redemption

Homestead Savings

A Federal Savings and Loan Association

U.S. \$150,000,000

Collateralized Floating Rate Notes Due 1995

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to Section 11.01 of the Indenture dated as of November 1, 1985 (the "Indenture") among Homestead Savings (the "Company") and Citibank, N.A., as Trustee (the "Trustee") and Union Bank as Co-Trustee (the "Co-Trustee"), the Company has elected to redeem and will redeem on May 31, 1988 (the "Redemption Date") all of the outstanding Collateralized Floating Rate Notes (hereinafter called the "Securities") at the Redemption Price of 100% of the principal amount thereof (the "Redemption Price") plus accrued interest to the Redemption Date.

On and after the Redemption Date, the Redemption Price will become due and payable upon presentation and surrender of the Securities at the office of the paying agents listed below.

On and after the Redemption Date, interest on the Securities shall cease to accrue.

Paying Agents
Citibank, N.A.
111 Wall Street, 5th Floor
Corporate Trust Services
New York, NY 10043

Citibank, N.A.
Citibank House
530 Strand
London, WC2R 1HB
England

Citicorp Investment Bank
(Luxembourg) S.A.
16 Avenue Marie Therese
Luxembourg

HOMESTEAD SAVINGS
A Federal Savings and Loan Association
by CITIBANK, N.A., Trustee

NOTICE

Under the United States Interest and Dividend Tax Compliance Act of 1983, any payment made within the United States, including payments by transfer to an account maintained by the payee with a bank in the United States may be subject to reporting to the United States Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and to backup withholding of 20% of the gross proceeds if payee is not recognized as exempt recipients fail to provide the paying agent with an executed IRS Form W-8 in the case of non-U.S. persons or an executed IRS Form W-9 in the case of U.S. persons. Those holders who are required to provide their correct taxpayer identification on Internal Revenue Service Form W-9 and who fail to do so may also be subject to a penalty of U.S. \$50. Please, therefore, provide the appropriate certification when presenting securities for payment if payment within the United States is sought.

April 18, 1988

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Sterling index compared with 1975 was up at 78.3 (day's range 77.9-78.3).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Market rates for April 15	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
New York	1877.5-1885	1885	0.15-0.15	0.33-0.40
London	2.3199-2.3206	2.3206	0.02-0.02	0.02-0.02
Amsterdam	3.5145-3.5152	3.5152	1.0-1.0	1.0-1.0
Brussels	65.34-65.70	65.34	2.0-2.0	2.0-2.0
Comptoir	12.0076-12.0087	12.0087	1.0-1.0	1.0-1.0
Frankfurt	1.1621-1.1628	1.1628	1.0-1.0	1.0-1.0
Paris	3.1248-3.1270	3.1270	1.0-1.0	1.0-1.0
Stockholm	255.48-257.78	257.78	1.0-1.0	1.0-1.0
Switzerland	208.18-208.87	208.87	1.0-1.0	1.0-1.0
Madrid	231.77-232.45	232.45	1.0-1.0	1.0-1.0
Milan	11.6311-11.6318	11.6318	1.0-1.0	1.0-1.0
Oslo	10.9299-10.9347	10.9347	1.0-1.0	1.0-1.0
Stockholm	11.0212-11.0223	11.0223	1.0-1.0	1.0-1.0
Tokyo	232.75-234.01	234.01	1.0-1.0	1.0-1.0
Verona	21.97-22.07	22.07	1.0-1.0	1.0-1.0
Zurich	2.5801-2.5833	2.5833	1.0-1.0	1.0-1.0

Premiums - pr. Discount - ds.

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

London	1.6075-1.6080	1.6080
Singapore	2.0020-2.0030	2.0030
Malaysia	2.5665-2.5675	2.5675
Australia	1.3260-1.3270	1.3270
Canada	1.2320-1.2330	1.2330
Sweden	2.8350-2.8360	2.8360
Norway	2.1030-2.1040	2.1040
Denmark	6.5770-6.5780	6.5780
Belgium	1.8005-1.8015	1.8015
Switzerland	1.3710-1.3720	1.3720
Netherlands	1.8020-1.8030	1.8030
France	5.6320-5.6330	5.6330
Japan	123.80-123.90	123.90
Austria	11.05-11.06	11.06

Rates supplied by Barclays Bank HOFEX and Citic.

MONEY MARKETS

Base Rates %: Clearing Banks & Finance Hse 5's	12 mth 8 1/8-8 3/4
Discount market rates	3 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
Overnight High & Low 6 Week fixed: 8	6 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
Treasury Bills (Discount %)	1 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
Buyer's 2 mth - 7 1/2	3 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
Seller's 2 mth - 7 1/2	3 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
Prime Bank Bills (Discount %)	1 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
1 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	3 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
3 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	6 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
6 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	12 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
12 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	18 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
18 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	24 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
24 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	30 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
30 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	36 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
36 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	42 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
42 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	48 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
48 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	54 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
54 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	60 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
60 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	66 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
66 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	72 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
72 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	78 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
78 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	84 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
84 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	90 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
90 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	96 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
96 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	102 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
102 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	108 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
108 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	114 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
114 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	120 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
120 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	126 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
126 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	132 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
132 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	138 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
138 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	144 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
144 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	150 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
150 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	156 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
156 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	162 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
162 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	168 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
168 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	174 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
174 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	180 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
180 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	186 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
186 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	192 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
192 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	198 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
198 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	204 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
204 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	210 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
210 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	216 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
216 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	222 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
222 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	228 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
228 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	234 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
234 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	240 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
240 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	246 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
246 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	252 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
252 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	258 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
258 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	264 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
264 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	270 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
270 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	276 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
276 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	282 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
282 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	288 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
288 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	294 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
294 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	300 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
300 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	306 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
306 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	312 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
312 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	318 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
318 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	324 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
324 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	330 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
330 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	336 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
336 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	342 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
342 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	348 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
348 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	354 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
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372 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	378 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
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408 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	414 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
414 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	420 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
420 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	426 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
426 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	432 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
432 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	438 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
438 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	444 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
444 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	450 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
450 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	456 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
456 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	462 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
462 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	468 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
468 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	474 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
474 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	480 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
480 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	486 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
486 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	492 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
492 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	498 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
498 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	504 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
504 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	510 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
510 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	516 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
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534 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	540 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
540 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	546 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
546 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	552 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
552 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	558 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
558 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	564 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
564 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	570 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
570 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	576 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
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600 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	606 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
606 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	612 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
612 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	618 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
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624 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	630 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
630 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	636 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
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642 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	648 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
648 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	654 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
654 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	660 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
660 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	666 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
666 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	672 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
672 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	678 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
678 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	684 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
684 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	690 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
690 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	696 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
696 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	702 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
702 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	708 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
708 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	714 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
714 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	720 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
720 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	726 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
726 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	732 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
732 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	738 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
738 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	744 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
744 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	750 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
750 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	756 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
756 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	762 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
762 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	768 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
768 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	774 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
774 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	780 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
780 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	786 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
786 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	792 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
792 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	798 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
798 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	804 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
804 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	810 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
810 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	816 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
816 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	822 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
822 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	828 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
828 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	834 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
834 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	840 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
840 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	846 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
846 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	852 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
852 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	858 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
858 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	864 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
864 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	870 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
870 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	876 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
876 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	882 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
882 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	888 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
888 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	894 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
894 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	900 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
900 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	906 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
906 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	912 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
912 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	918 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
918 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	924 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
924 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	930 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
930 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	936 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
936 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	942 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
942 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	948 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
948 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	954 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
954 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	960 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
960 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	966 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
966 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	972 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
972 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	978 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
978 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	984 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
984 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	990 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
990 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	996 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
996 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	1002 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
1002 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	1008 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
1008 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	1014 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
1014 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	1020 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
1020 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	1026 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
1026 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	1032 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
1032 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	1038 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
1038 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	1044 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
1044 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	1050 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
1050 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	1056 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
1056 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	1062 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
1062 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	1068 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
1068 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	1074 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
1074 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	1080 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
1080 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	1086 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
1086 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	1092 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
1092 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	1098 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
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1122 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	1128 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
1128 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	1134 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
1134 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	1140 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
1140 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	1146 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
1146 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4	1152 mth 7 1/2-7 3/4
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An Introduction to Stockwatch

Dear Investor,

It is six months to the day since Black Monday, when the world's stock markets went into free-fall.

On that day and the worrying days that followed in the financial markets of the world, one commodity had a value outweighing that of the most precious metal: information.

It still has that value. The investor with the information is the one who has the opportunity to trade profit-

ably, and with certainty. *The Times* is dedicated to providing the information the investor needs, with a spread of statistical material, news and informed comment that is the envy of newspapers around the world.

From this week, this wealth of printed material is supplemented by STOCKWATCH, which, as we explain below, is a telephone information service of which this newspaper can be justifiably proud.

It is easy to see telephone services as a mere gimmick, and indeed some could be described as such. But investors using the STOCKWATCH service will have, we are confident, a business tool they will quickly regard as indispensable. Private investors will, at last, be on equal terms with the professionals. If you use the service, you will be as up to date as the investment managers at the Prudential, able to react to circumstances as they change.

One in five adults in Britain owns shares, and a survey by the Treasury and the Stock Exchange showed that, despite the volatility of the financial markets, they were not selling out.

I invite each of those investors to test our STOCKWATCH service.

Yours sincerely,
David Brewerton

Executive Editor
Finance and Industry

WIN £50,000 IN UNIT TRUSTS

- Today we launch our STOCKWATCH competition, with £50,000 worth of unit trusts from Equitable Life as prizes.
- Equitable Life has an excellent reputation and a long history of sound investment and good returns. Beginning this week, you can win £1,000 worth of its recommended unit trusts each week.
- Playing STOCKWATCH is simple. It involves making a single telephone call each day, Monday to Friday.
- You can play right now (or at any time, day or night) by picking up your telephone and calling 0898-141-400, the STOCKWATCH competition number.
- You will hear the voice of a well-known personality in business, finance or industry. The voice will make a brief statement which will provide a further clue to its identity.
- Each day, when you call 0898-141-400, you will hear a different voice, five each week. The recording of the day's personality will change at 4am each day.
- To help you identify all the voices, photographic clues to the five personalities will appear in *The Times* on Saturday, together with an entry coupon.
- The first correct entry opened after the closing date will win the £1,000 worth of unit trusts. Winners may select the type of unit trust they prefer from a range recommended by Equitable Life.
- Call 0898-141-400 now. Can you identify the voice of today's business leader?

Technology on tap for all investors

By Our Financial Staff

It is easy to believe that only the City and its big professional investors, such as the Prudential and the Post Office Pension Fund, benefited from the Big Bang revolution 18 months ago.

Millions of new small investors, enticed into the stock market by the twin attractions of the Thatcher Government's nine-year privatization spree and the biggest bull market the world has ever seen, watched as the big City firms invested fortunes in complex computerized dealing systems designed to speed up Britain's securities trading industry to enable it to compete worldwide, and waited as they scrapped over the mega-deals that alone could justify the expenditure.

And while the professionals were overnight given a better and quicker service than they had ever had before, the growing army of private clients, in many cases finding brokers becoming resentful of the demands made on their increasingly valuable time, felt that their inability to react as speedily left them with, in some ways, a bigger disadvantage than before in the City.

It has taken a little longer but the private investor, big and small, is beginning to avail himself of the same technology as the professionals.

STOCKWATCH, the service launched today by *The Times* in partnership with BT Citycall, a British Telecom offshoot, represents the most advanced step available to the small investor.

About 4,000 share prices and 7,000 unit trust and bond prices will be instantly available to STOCKWATCH members, 24 hours a day, anywhere in Britain. At the same time, they will have access to a string of financial reports, bulletins and news services. And all the investor needs is a telephone.

Members can key in their investment portfolios and obtain up-to-the-second valuations.

STOCKWATCH is not the first financial phoneline, but it is believed to be the most comprehensive and sophisticated so far. Early attempts at such systems have either been criticized for being slow, unreliable or less comprehensive. At *The Times* it was felt better to wait until technology had learned to cope with the teething problems.

As a result it can introduce a complete service bearing all the characteristics of reliability and accuracy that readers have come to expect from *The Times*.

To readers of *The Times*, it is free. Most other phoneline services demand membership fees and subscriptions. For the time being there is no charge to readers, other than a £10 deposit, which will be refunded on validation of the membership.

STOCKWATCH has been devised by Citycall, the originator of the serious telephone information service, and bearing in mind Citycall's BT parentage, is a direct descendant of the speaking clock. But it is as far down the evolutionary road from "Tim" as Einstein was from Neanderthal man.

STOCKWATCH gives callers instant access to SEAQ, the Stock Exchange computer system, which registers every price change on the stock market as it happens. Using a five-digit code system, subscribers tap out the relevant share code on the telephone and promptly hear a voice telling them the most up-to-date information. In the case of the blue chip Alpha stocks, subscribers will be told both the bid and offer prices, the price of the last deal and the volume of shares traded.

From today, nearly 3,000 share prices will be available, updated immediately. "Indicative" prices — updated regularly throughout the day — will be given in the case of a further 1,000, less active stocks. By the beginning of next month the list will be augmented by about 7,000 unit trust and bond prices.

STOCKWATCH members will receive two separate code books, one covering shares and the other unit trusts and bonds. In a fluid market the constituents of each index will fluctuate to some extent, but members will be able to update their lists daily by consulting the Business News section of *The Times*.

One of the chief advantages of this system, of course, is that members need no more technological knowhow than that required to use a telephone.

Ideally applicants will have a multi-frequency telephone, the type which emits a different tone for each numeral. But as part of their membership kit, all subscribers will receive a credit-card sized keypad which, when held over the telephone mouthpiece, effectively transforms any telephone into a multi-frequency unit.

In any case all applicants will be offered the opportunity to buy an M-F telephone at a significant discount.

Armed with this keypad a STOCKWATCH subscriber holding, say, British Telecom shares, will be able to obtain an instant quote for his investment while sitting in the armchair in front of his television. Similarly, a Save & Prosper unitholder can check the value of his investment

actively transforms any telephone into a multi-frequency unit.

On a good day this could involve a queue. On a really bad one he would find himself in a scrum with his rival blue-buttoners clustering around the dealer's pitch.

Once armed with the information he would return to his telephone to relay it back to the office. The client would be contacted and told the share price.

Of course, revaluing his portfolio might take a little longer.

Before Big Bang, 18 months ago, it would not have been possible on a real-time basis. But rare was the stockbroker firm that would have entertained a valuation request at all on the telephone.

Clients were asked to write in, and the job was handed over to a clerk whose reply would inevitably be at least 36 hours out of date by the time it fell through the letterbox.



Miss Caroline Griffiths, managing director-elect of BT Citycall, holds the exclusive STOCKWATCH keypad that will provide anyone with a telephone with instant access to more than 10,000 prices.

A Cambridge maths and economics graduate, Miss Griffiths left the BBC after six years to edit Citycall's first market report three years ago. Her BBC background, where she worked on

Tomorrow's World and produced Radio 4's financial programme, *Moneybox*, provided her with ideal credentials for running STOCKWATCH. And these were augmented last summer when she passed the Stock Exchange Registered Representative exam.

"We're very excited about the launch of STOCKWATCH, and we are confident it will be a success," she says. (Photograph: James Morgan)

while waiting to tee off at the golf club.

By tapping out their own personal digital password they will receive an instant, up-to-the-minute valuation not only of each investment but also of the entire portfolio.

Members do not need to own a share or a unit to make use of STOCKWATCH. More and more followers of the stock market enjoy the fun of choosing and managing their own imaginary portfolios. Clubs and schools run games and competitions without investing a penny in hard cash. STOCKWATCH will give competitors an instant run-down on their performances.

Eventually, and they are already talking about the possibilities at Citycall, it is expected that a modification of the system will be able to execute deals for STOCKWATCH members. And with work on voice recognition systems well advanced, it may be possible before too long to do away with the keypads altogether.

Citycall handles tens of thousands of calls every day — and competently dealt with almost 100,000 on Black Monday and the desperate days that followed.

Its team of two editors and eight reporters, based just north of the City, are constantly monitoring the City's markets and updating their bulletins. These are taped in their three studios, then loaded into its memory banks, and relayed, on demand, to subscribers.

But even that looks antiquated compared with the technology involved in the share price retrieval system. Subscribers' calls are answered by the STOCKWATCH computer, which, on the coded command, seeks the relevant share price information through its direct link with the SEAQ computer. The STOCKWATCH computer then translates the electronic data into English.

This is handled by special voice-processing equipment, designed and manufactured by Voicetek, a US company, which sifts 11,500 separate names and numbers stored in its memory by BT staff member Dave Mitchell. He has spent more than 100 hours recording every name and number that could be required.

These are assembled in order, and relayed to the caller.



● As part of the introductory package, British Telecom is offering readers of *The Times* an enticing discount on an M-F multi-frequency telephone.

Members who have access to an M-F telephone will find the service even easier to use because it does away with the need to use the tone generator keypad.

Members will then be able to plug in their M-F telephone at home for everyday use. The telephone is a fully electronic, low-profile instrument with adjustable volume. They can then carry the tone generator keypad so they can call the STOCKWATCH service when away from home. Full details of the offer are included in the membership pack.

STOCKWATCH: INVESTORS WILL FIND IT ESSENTIAL

Six months of planning with British Telecom and its Citycall subsidiary have been invested in *The Times* STOCKWATCH service to ensure it is far superior to any other service.

Giving instant access to the prices of more than 10,000 shares, unit trusts, bonds and funds, it is the most comprehensive financial phoneline service available.

Membership, during the introductory period, is free. There are no subscription charges and no fees to pay.

The only expense a member will incur is the cost of telephone calls. Even here, STOCKWATCH watches the pennies. The computer-activated voice can deliver all requested information in mere seconds — and that is all you pay for. The rate is 5p per 12 seconds off peak, and 5p per eight seconds at other times, inclusive of VAT.

The new miniature keypad, which converts the dialling signal of any conventional telephone to a multi-frequency tone signal, is a miracle of convenience. It allows users to call up the vast STOCKWATCH database at any time, and from anywhere in Britain.

For investors with portfolios, the STOCKWATCH Portfolio Service will be particularly valuable.

Using their unique password, members can enter their portfolios into the STOCKWATCH memory system, which will accept up to a total of 25 different shares and investments in any combination. Once memorized, the latest prices of the holdings can be called up instantly with a single call. Investors can also find out the latest valuation of their shares and the value of the entire portfolio.

In addition to the updated share price and the Portfolio services, STOCKWATCH members have access to a range of financial reports and bulletins, from precious metals to penny shares, from currencies to company news, from Wall Street and Hong Kong to Singapore and Sydney.

If you are in the market for updated financial information, you should take advantage of *The Times* STOCKWATCH charter offer of free membership by completing and mailing the application form at the foot of this page.

Each application must include a "good faith" payment of £10, which will be totally refunded. Your membership pack will include a voucher redeemable against your telephone bill. Simply deduct £10 from your bill when paying and attach the voucher.

In your membership pack, you will receive:

- An index book of share codes, and user manual;
- An index book of codes to unit trusts and other investments;
- An M-F tone generator keypad;
- Privilege offer coupon for the latest electronic switchable M-F telephone;
- Details of *The Times* Stockwatch competition in which £50,000 worth of unit trusts from Equitable Life can be won; and
- Your £10 Refund Voucher, redeemable against your ordinary telephone bill.

You can try the STOCKWATCH service — right now. If you would like to hear how STOCKWATCH works, pick up your telephone and call 0898-141-142 for a brief demonstration.

Changing face of financial services

What a long way financial information services have come.

STOCKWATCH makes instantly available to its members information that once took hours, and in some cases days, to ascertain.

Many investors will remember the days when their only access to a share price other than through their morning newspapers was through their stockbroker. And what a long-winded business that could be!

First the client had to get through on the telephone to the office of his stockbroker, a task that alone could sometimes seem to take hours. Once connected, he would put in his request.

His stockbroker would then call up a colleague at the firm's "box" on the old trading floor, and send him off in search of a price from one of the jobbers dealing in the stock in question.

If he was in luck he would see the latest price chalked up on the jobber's priceboard, above his head. But if the price

was not shown, or the stock was particularly active, or simply just to double-check, he would ask the jobber.

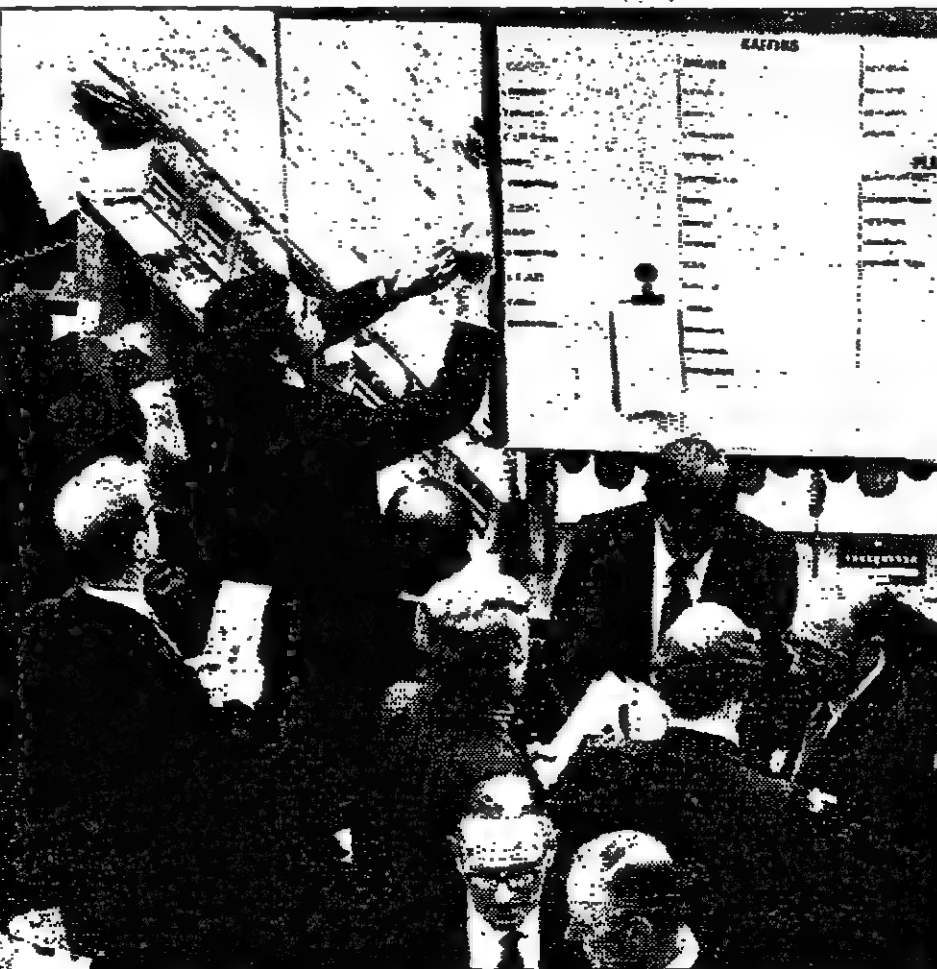
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The old way: a pre-Big Bang jobber updates his prices

THE TIMES

STOCKWATCH

0898 141 141

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

To apply for free charter membership* of THE TIMES STOCKWATCH Service, please complete this application form, enclose the £10 "good faith" deposit, and send to the address given below. PLEASE USE BALLPOINT AND CAPITAL LETTERS.

SURNAME (Mr/Mrs/Ms) _____ INITIALS _____

ADDRESS _____

POSTCODE _____

TELEPHONE (Home) _____ (Business) _____

OCCUPATION _____ DATE _____

I enclose a cheque or Postal Order for £10 made payable to 'BT CITYCALL LTD'. (This will be refundable as a voucher redeemable against my telephone bill).

Please debit my Access/Visa card no: _____

EXPIRY DATE _____

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

Send remittance and coupon to:
The Times Stockwatch, FREEPOST, Newbury, Berkshire, RG13 1BR

Please allow up to 28 days for your membership pack from receipt of order. Offer available in the UK only.

*Free membership available for a limited period only

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MANAGEMENT PROVEN IN THE MARKET PLACE. *Chevy Chase* **MANAGEMENT PROVEN IN THE MARKET PLACE.** *Chevy Chase*



How
cla
the

Hoechst
£20m

Volvo car
assembly
line goes

Twelve
Reco

Turnover
Pre-tax Profits
Earnings per share
Total Dividend

6

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A black and white illustration of a woman lying down, wearing a patterned dress, with a large, dark, textured object (possibly a rock or a large piece of fabric) in the foreground. The woman is looking towards the viewer with a slight smile. The large object in the foreground is dark and has a rough, textured surface. The background is plain white.

Aggressive marketing has more than doubled trading profits since 1981, reaching some £57 million in 1987. So carefully planned management is achieving exciting profit growth.

هكذا من الجاهل

MANAGEMENT PROVEN IN THE MARKET PLACE

How personality clashes split the boardroom

By John Spicer, Employment Affairs Correspondent

Failures in working relationships among company directors are almost invariably due to personality clashes rather than any inability or lack of qualifications of top executives to do the job.

As many as nine out of 10 boardroom splits can be put down to personality differences. And most of them happen within a few months of a new director arriving, according to Mr Anthony Saxton, who runs Saxton Bamfylde International, a leading executive headhunting agency.

Mr Saxton, who has been in the executive recruitment business for 20 years, says the cost of these failures to the companies is enormous. One of the main problems is that some companies go about recruiting their senior executives in the wrong way.

"The indications are that headhunters are finding what appear to be ideal candidates on paper, yet the headhunter's

role must include an analysis of the personalities involved to ensure compatibility."

Mr Saxton has listed 20 critical points for successful "courtship" when a new executive is being wooed by a company.

"People who marry on the basis of hearsay and a couple of meetings are regarded as precipitate and foolish."

"Yet people who entrust the direction of substantial parts of major businesses to perfect strangers on a similar basis are regarded as quite normal. That makes little sense."

Mr Saxton believes that any firm which asks a headhunter to find it a senior executive should ensure the headhunter knows all about the firm.

Likewise, he says, it is up to the headhunter to get to know the eccentricities of key people in the firm, as well as the company culture and strategy, to ensure that the person recruited will fit.

19 OCTOBER SIX MONTHS ON

Six months ago today, the financial world was shaken to its very foundations by the huge slide in equity markets worldwide — Black Monday, the beginning of the October crash. Then and since, vast quantities of time and fires have been consumed in diagnosis of the causes of the crash and the implications for equity markets, which have struggled to regain their confidence. But what of the gilt market over this period?

In the week prior to Black Monday the US bond market had slumped, as fear soured the Federal Reserve, already set on a monetary-tightening path, would jack rates up sharply further to defend a dollar whose stability had been seriously undermined by an extremely disappointing trade figure. The gilt market had followed New York downwards.

The following week, however, as the sky fell in on equity markets worldwide, the focus of their bond market counterparts switched to recession. US bonds soared, as did gilts, with UK long yields dropping from 10½ per cent to below 9 per cent in a dramatic, albeit brief, surge.

Fuelling this global bond rally was the "world turned upside down" theory. The equity markets' collective collapse, it was argued,

would send the world into recession; and that, in its turn, would provoke deflation. In such circumstances, investors would cash in their previously favoured equities and rush to fill their portfolios with bonds.

It is one of the curious features of the crash that most of the forecasts of the consequences made at the time were wrong. And not just slightly, but completely.

The doomsters — who were then in a clear majority — looked forward to a sharp global economic downturn as individuals and companies cut back their expenditure. The potential magnitude of wealth and confidence effects was exhaustively discussed, and comparisons with the early 1930s were very much in vogue.

Of course, what actually happened was completely different. During the past six months all the big economies appear wholly to have shrugged off the collapse in stock markets and their imperfect (with the notable exception of Japan) recovery since. Confidence in the private sector, whether in the US or elsewhere, was nowhere near as fragile as many imagined. Indeed, the world economy gives every indication of being on track to grow as fast this year as last, a view supported by the IMF last week.

Certainly, in the UK, aggregate demand and output have continued to be surprisingly strong; something that we suspect will keep happening in coming months.

The other popular forecast doing

the rounds six months ago was that the crash would directly benefit gilts because the large financial institutions would decide they had put too many of their eggs in the equity basket and would, in response, move to restore a better balance by switching out of equities into gilts — or, at the very least, diverting a far greater proportion of their new money to gilts.

This, however, has not happened to any material extent. The institutions appear to have been content to accumulate cash. Certainly, they have been in no hurry to allocate it to any of the asset markets. The result of this has been fast-rising institutional liquidity. Pension fund liquidity, for instance, has risen from a pre-crash 3 per cent to a level today not far short of 10 per cent.

The post-crash drop below 9 per cent in the long end of the gilt market proved short-lived (as had been the 1980 previous moves into sub-9 per cent territory in recent years: the first induced by the 1986 oil price collapse, and the second by anticipation of Mrs Thatcher's election victory last year). Indeed, since then long yields have traded in the 9-10 per cent range.

Interestingly, if the proverbial fund manager from Mars, interested in some genuine interplanetary portfolio diversification, were to look at the performance of the gilt market since the crash, he would probably be surprised by how little gilt yields had changed.

What continues to dog gilts is the continued rapid growth in the

British economy. Strong domestic demand, a tightening labour market, surging credit and a widening current account deficit are the sort of economic background that makes most gilt investors run for cover — and stay there.

All the inflation indices themselves continue to be well behaved and there are no signs whatever of any pick-up in inflation. Obsessive concern about "overheating" is still wholly unsupported by any hard evidence. None the less, such worries will doubtless persist until there are signs of a material slowdown in either output growth or domestic demand. And the latter promises to grow as strongly this year as last.

Even that usual staple of a bull market in gilts — lower base rates — has been greeted with a degree of suspicion. The fear is that upward pressure upon the pound is forcing the Government to take risks on the inflation front, and the reappearance of an upward-sloping yield curve indicates that the gilt market thinks monetary policy is too loose.

It is this sort of outlook that has caused some to worry about the prospect for the gilt market later this year. However, the pessimists are likely to be in for a surprise. Indeed, we believe that there is a very good chance that long gilt yields will have dropped further by the end of the year.

What has not yet been fully appreciated is that strong economic growth and a high exchange rate regime are good news for gilts. It is a

combination that severely limits the supply of gilts while holding inflation in check. It is a recipe for lower real interest rates.

Forecasts of future gilt supply are made with a degree of precision that belies the fact that they are among the most error-prone of any economic forecasts.

But one point is very clear indeed. With the PSBR to stay in large surplus — probably larger than the Chancellor admitted in his Budget — and intervention in the foreign exchange markets now downgraded as a policy option, gilt issues will be very scarce indeed in the coming year. Indeed, it looks as if the Government will be a net buyer of gilts over the year as a whole.

The institutions will not be able or willing to accumulate cash indefinitely. Admittedly, only part of this "cash mountain" will go to gilts: much, we think, is destined for UK and overseas equities. None the less, gilts promise to be in material demand.

The strong case for the gilt-edged market is that last October's equity market sell-off did not have the effects upon the real economy that were feared. Instead, economic growth has continued unabated. A government with both a strong anti-inflation commitment and a Budget surplus is unprecedented in modern times. Buy now while stocks last.

Ian Harwood and John Shepperd
Warburg Securities

Time to buy while stocks last

GILT-EDGED

Hoechst to invest £20m in Britain

By David Young

The growing importance of Britain as a base for the expansion of European companies has been highlighted by the latest profits figures issued by Hoechst, the West German chemical conglomerate.

Hoechst UK has announced a substantial return to profit and a £20 million investment programme for the coming year in new research and production facilities.

The company will invest in new laboratories in Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, and at its chemicals plant in Harlow, Essex.

Investments will also be made at its fibres plant in Northern Ireland and the company plans to continue the expansion programme which has seen staffing rise by 18 per cent, from 6,397 in 1986 to 7,552 last year.

The company has turned a £1 million loss in 1986 into an £11 million profit in 1987 and this year has met 40 per cent of the profit targets set for 1988.

Mr Arno Baltzer, the chairman and chief executive, said that in 1987 exports climbed to £76 million as turnover increased by 17 per cent to £1 billion.

He said: "1987 was the most successful year in the history of Hoechst UK — thus far. I confidently predict that our company and our group will continue to go from strength to strength and that 1988 and succeeding years will bring us even greater success."

"This year is already showing a growth in our UK business and we are confident that we can share in the dynamic economic performance of the chemical industry as a whole."

In the past year the company has disposed of its Berger paints business — "the end of one era and the start of a new one for the Hoechst Group," — and it has taken a half share in the UK market for carbon dioxide by its acquisition of the Distillers carbon dioxide business.

Volvo car assembly line goes

By Daniel Ward

A car assembly plant where there is no production line and employees work on a car for up to two hours at a time will be opened in the autumn by Volvo.

The Uddevalla plant, in Sweden, is close to the ultimate form of "group working" which Volvo has pioneered in its Kalmar factory since 1974.

Cars will be stationary for up to two hours at Uddevalla and will move only four times in the assembly process. Three groups of four working areas will be adjacent to a final testing and inspection zone.

Uddevalla will foster team spirit among the 80 employees who will work on each car and relieve monotony by allowing them to complete a large number of tasks on each vehicle.

A maximum of 40,000 Volvo 740s a year will be built on a single shift.

Shop sales growth 'to continue'

By Derek Harris

Steady growth in shop sales is expected this month following a quieter March than retailers had expected.

The Confederation of British Industry expects a continuation into April of the moderation in the underlying trend of sales growth which has been maintained over the first quarter of the year, according to its distributive trades survey for March.

Mr John Caff, the CBI's economics director, said: "Sales should continue to show good increases above last year."

The survey showed 58 per cent of retailers expected April sales to be higher than a year ago.

March 1988 CBI/Financial Times Distributive Trades Survey.

Twelfth Year of Record Growth

	1987 £m	1986 £m	% change
Turnover	162.6	145.5	+12
Pre-Tax Profits	32.5	28.0	+16
Earnings per share	13.16p	11.72p	+12
Total Dividend	3.277p	2.700p	+21

Audited Results for the year ended 31 December 1987.

"Our aim is to continue the growth that we have achieved over the past twelve years. The order intake, sales and trading profit for the first two months of the year are higher than for the comparable period of 1987. We will continue with our basic strategy which is to identify niche markets in the electrical and electronic sectors and to serve those markets on an international basis."

Ray Parsons, Executive Chairman

Bowthorpe Holdings

A copy of the Report and Accounts now available from the Company Secretary at
Bowthorpe Holdings plc
Crawley, West Sussex BN10 2RZ

HAYS DISTRIBUTION SERVICES

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It's always made sound business sense not to stake everything on a single venture. That's how Hays plc has grown to become one of the largest business services and distribution groups in the UK. Included among its customers are giants like Tesco, ICI, Shell,

Hays
THE COMPANY OF GREAT COMPANIES

Ford and The Stock Exchange. For more information about the companies above, or any of the range of Hays companies, please write to Andrew Morison, Hays plc, Hays House, Millmead, Guildford, Surrey, GU2 5HJ. Or telephone him on (0485) 502205.

Hays Distribution Services Ltd. Hays Contract Distribution Ltd. Interband Distribution. TCD Temperature Controlled Distribution. Hays Storage Services Ltd. Hays Cold Storage Hays Distribution Consultants. Theale Commercial Services Ltd. Hays Marine Services Ltd. Barker and King Ltd. Crescent Shipping Ltd. Crescent Wharves Ltd. Trafalgar Ltd. Hays Commercial Services Ltd. Hays Business Services Ltd. Hays Business Services SA (Belgium). Britdole Ltd. Data Express Ltd. Bentinck Ltd. St Olaf Insurance Brokers Ltd. Spandor SA. (Spain) Interchange Ltd. (Hong Kong) Hays Personnel Services Ltd. Accountancy Personnel Ltd. Montrose Technical Staff Ltd. TAV Staff Agency Ltd. Accountancy Personnel Int'l SA. Accountancy Placements Pty Ltd (Australia). Hays Chemicals Ltd. International Additives Ltd. Blacksmith Chemical Services Ltd. Hays Technology Systems Ltd. TH Dixon & Co Ltd. Autofeds London Ltd. Magna-Graphics Corp. (USA). DATM Inc. (USA).

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754.5m	Smartt (Jen)	303	-2	11.4	3.9	16.
6,278,000	Usher Walker	295		3.1	1.0	18.
3d Qm	VPI Up	308	+2	4.9	2.1	13.
106 Bay	WCRS	234	+9	8.5	1.7	16.
189 1st	WPP	518	-21			

76 4/8	Wicks	242	+7	4.1	1.7	20
143 0m	Wardington (J)	183	+1	8.5	4.6	12
56.2m	Warrington	418		11.3	27	98
13.3m	Everley Cam	89	-2	9.4b	0.6	-
15 5m	Yellowhammer	151	+1	3.1	2.1	13

85.4c	Allied Lon	118	-1	2.0	2.5 18
181.5c	Arlington Sees	192	0	5.0	2.9 13
84.2c	Asda	168	+0	1.4	0.8 40
72.3c	BBM Group	109	-3	1.7	1.6 22
85.0c	Baker Harris	203	+0	8.5	9.4 17
72.8c	Beckman & Mau	110	+1	7.7	1.5 22

102.1m Br Land	305	+2	61	17	19
228.0m Braxon	275	+1	9.8	3.5	28
102.1m Br Land	305	+2	61	17	19

18.1m	Card Op	100	●+13	7.4	2.0
479.0m	Cap & Counties	413	●+25	11.6	2.0 25
9,048,000	Cardiff Prop	400	..	3.6	0.7

18.7m Lynyrd	150	4.19	2.9	1.2
10.2m Clark Nichols	100		4.01	4.02
100 1m Cayton	203		11.0	4.1 10

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4,500,000	Jehmyn	460	2.4	0.8
234 4m	Lamp Prop	402	12.3	3.1 16.3
2,774 1m	Land Sec (aa)	593	19.5	2.8 22.3

[illegible]

90.7m	Warrford	145	●	28.3	2.7	34.5
26.2m	Warenglade	120	+	2.1	1.8	9.5

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SHOES, LEATHER

3 144.000	Heartfern Sams	77	0.7e	0.9
11 Dns	Lambert-Hawman	195	17.0	9.9 7.7
43.0m	Stacy Gurnar	198	8.1	4.1 10.1
42.2m	Strong & Foner	225	14.7	8.5 8.1
53.6m	Clyde	278	6.9	2.5 49.0

TEXTILES				
85 Bm	Allied Text	345	12.6	37 16.5
12 1m	Beale (Jorn)	230		

3917 000 Bolton	115	7.7	7.9	6.9	11.4
26 Van Br Mohair	43	4.4			28.9
19 Rem Crotch	196	5.5	10.3	5.2	8.2

1,372.2m	Courtsblades (aa)	57	+1	2.2	3.9	16.3
22.2m	Co-Moore	367	+17	13.9	3.8	9.5
309.3m	Chromher (J)	184	+10	8.5	4.5	10.5
11.0m	Dumthorn	202	+12	5.9	4.9	10.7
10.8m	Foster (Lohn)	121	-3	3.7	3.0	8.0
8,327.0m	Gasler Broadhorn	179	+5	5.5	4.5	39.2
3,691.0m	Hickel	173	+5	8.0		
61.1m	Ringwurm	101	+3			28.1
12.0m	Jernake (S)	215	+19	5.8	3.9	12.8
6.3m	Jarnoni	273	-5	9.8	5.5	8.8
36.7m	Leutze	370	-5	8.6	2.3	13.0
19.0m	Uster					

17.3m	Mackay (Hugh)	88	-2	4.3	8.3	15.9
—	Mumford	290	-10	9.5	3.3	13.2

52,000	Pinkston A	170	-	7.1	42.13
5,987,000	SEET	170	-	3.2	6.6
52,000	Robinson	169	-	7.3	58.11
52,000	Sandler	169	+0	0.8	22.12
2,718,000	Shaw	169	+1	0.2	22.12
52,000	Shelburne (P)	169	-	7.1	72.14
52,000	Shelburne	168	-	3.8	55.11
5,598,000	Stewart Jersey	170	-	3.0	44.84
52,000	Stewart	172	-	3.6	55.11
250,000	Telecommunications	185	-10	8.6	58.14
250,000	Telecommunications	185	-10	8.6	58.14
5,200,000	West Trust	208	+11	0.2	60.89
5,200,000	Wynstone	208	-2	10.3	50.50

TOBACCO

0.275 lbs BAT (alt)	120	-	-	-	-
1 lb. Camel	120	-11	23.2	6.5	8.0
1 lb.50s Rothmans (R) (alt)	393	-	11.2	2.9	11.6

Ex dividend = Ex date | Forecast dividend = Int'ltn
 payment passed | Price at suspension of sales
 yield dividend

.. No significant data

100

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EDUCATIONAL

POSTS

HUMBERSIDE COLLEGE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

HUMBERSIDE BUSINESS SCHOOL

The newly-formed Humberside Business School offers Higher National Diploma, degree and postgraduate (including MBA) courses across three closely interlinked areas: Information & Computing, Finance & Administration and Business & Industrial Studies. The Business School operates primarily on an attractive suburban site of Humberside College of Higher Education, and comprises a significant part of the college's work.

Applications are invited for the following posts:

INFORMATION AND COMPUTING STUDIES L11/SL (3 posts)

The successful candidates will join an expanding enthusiastic team to teach in one of the following areas:

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DISCRETE MATHS AND FORMAL NOTATIONS FOR SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT.

Candidates should have a degree and/or appropriate professional qualifications combined with relevant lecturing experience.

The work of the School spans BTEC, Degree and Postgraduate Studies, and those appointed will be expected to contribute to the expansion and enhancement of the portfolio of courses.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRIAL STUDIES L11/SL (2 posts)

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Candidates should be suitably qualified and have experience in the areas of Personnel Management, Organisational Behaviour, Industrial Relations and Management Development.

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We are seeking to appoint a Spanish linguist who can also offer French and/or EFL on a range of appropriate courses.

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The successful candidate will carry out a range of teaching duties on degree courses within the Humberside Business School. An interest in local economic development and European Community trade issues would be welcome. Candidates should have a degree, teaching experience, and be capable of contributing to the School's research work.

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The successful candidate will carry out a range of teaching duties on degree and Higher National courses within the Humberside Business School. Teaching will embrace courses on People, Organisations and Communications, and Business Analysis. A contribution to the skills development programme is likely to be required. An interest in course development and innovative approaches to teaching/learning would be an advantage.

Application forms and further information can be obtained from:

Personnel Reception,
Humberside College of Higher Education,
Cottingham Road,
Hull, HU6 7RT.
Telephone (0482) 446506.

Closing date for applications 26 April 1988

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Further information and application forms can be obtained from Clerk to the Governors, Mid-Kent College of Higher and Further Education, Horsted, Maidstone Road, Chatham, Kent ME15 9UQ. Tel: 0634 830633. Applications should be returned by 9 May 1988.



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The Governors invite applications for the Headship of St. David's College on the retirement of Mr John Mayor.

St. David's College, founded in 1885, is an independent school for 255 boys including 45 day boarders. Candidates must be graduates and in sympathy with the Christian foundation of the School. Preference will be given to candidates between the ages of 30 and 50.

Particulars of the post and method of application may be obtained from the Clerk to the Governors, St. David's College, Llandudno LL30 1RD.



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A flat is provided without charge, in addition to the normal range of benefits; salary circa £16,000 p.a.

Further information about the post may be obtained from the Director, London House for Overseas Graduates, Mecklenburgh Square, London, WC1N 2AR.

INSTRUCTOR IN COMPUTING TECHNOLOGY

£9,600 - £10,625 p.a.

HITEC (Hastings Information Technology Centre) requires an instructor in Computing Technology to join its team of professional instructing staff, and to commence duties as soon as possible.

The successful applicant will be required to instruct in the areas of computer architecture, computing application and electronics. A major function of the job will be to control and assist in the running of the extensive Electronics facility, and to help secure and manage the commercial work within it.

You should have a degree or degree-level qualification in a technical discipline, some industrial/commercial experience, and be able to supervise and impart skills and knowledge to 16-18 year-old trainees.

You should have the skills necessary to be able to carry out administration for the facility, to manage projects in electronics (primarily) and in computing applications (e.g. Lotus 1-2-3, DBase II etc.), and to liaise effectively and professionally with HITEC customers.

In the first instance, please write enclosing FULL CV to The Manager, HITEC, at Unit C3, Theakden Drive, St. Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex TN38 9EX. Full details of the post will then be sent. Interested applicants may wish to call first for an informal discussion with the Manager on (0424) 443866 (04790).

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Details and application form from the Secretary to the School Council Mrs E Smith, Palmers Green High School Hoppers Road London N21 3LJ

(Closing date for completed applications 20 May)

THE COUNCIL OF LEGAL EDUCATION THE INNS OF COURT SCHOOL OF LAW ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Applications are invited from persons holding a good honours degree for the above position. The person appointed will be principally concerned with responsibilities relating to the completion of the Academic Stage of Education and Training for the Bar, where the issue of Certificates of Eligibility to non-law graduates are concerned. In addition other administrative duties will also be involved.

The salary of the Administrative Officer will be on the scale of £10,710 p.a. to £13,310 p.a. with the possibility of progression eventually on higher scales to £17,170 p.a. The salary includes a London Allowance of £1,450 p.a.

The appointment is to commence on 1st June 1988 or as soon as possible thereafter.

Application forms and further details are available from the Sub-Dean, Council of Legal Education, 4 Gray's Inn Place, London WC1R 5DX (Telephone 01-404-5787) on request.

Closing date - Friday 29th April 1988.

THE COUNCIL OF LEGAL EDUCATION THE INNS OF COURT SCHOOL OF LAW LECTURERS IN LAW

Applications are invited from barristers with good honours degrees preferably in Law for both permanent and temporary (one year) teaching posts in the School. The temporary posts arise from the need to cover Academic Staff engaged in preparation for the new Bar Vocational Course.

The salary of the Lecturers will be on the scale of £12,520 to £15,950 p.a. with the possibility of progression on the Senior Lecturer scale to £20,760 p.a. and the Principal Lecturer scale beyond. All salaries include a London Allowance of £1,450 p.a.

Appointments will be from 1st September 1988.

Application forms and further details are available from the Sub-Dean, Council of Legal Education, 4 Gray's Inn Place, London WC1R 5DX (Telephone 01-404-5787) on request.

Closing date - Friday 29th April 1988.

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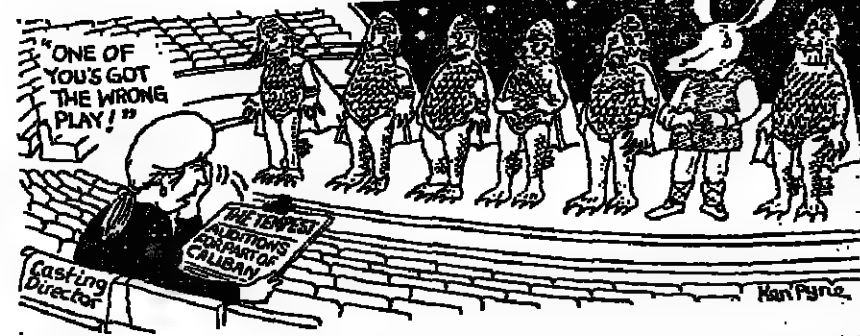
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The Secretary, David Game College, 85, Old Brompton Rd, SW7 3LQ & 209-212, Tottenham Ct Rd, W1 9AF. Tel: 01 594 1907/7580.

An act you can't do without

The casting director is not so much the director's right hand as an instrument of his vision in picking the right actor for a part, says Simon Walsh



There are two characters in Shakespeare's *The Tempest* called the Shipmaster and the Boatswain. They each have only a small part in the play, but they are very important, because you could not do Scene 1 without them. Doubtless you knew that already. But what do they look like? Roughly how tall are they? What colour is their hair?

The answers to these questions change every time a new production of *The Tempest* gets under way. In the mind's eye of the director there will already be a fairly shrewd idea of what each of the characters will look like. But what the director cannot see is where they can be found, and whether or not they will be available between the start of rehearsals and the final performance.

Enter the Casting Director...

Casting directors probably rank among the most pressured people in showbusiness. Their job is to establish the director's vision of each of the characters in a production, and then find the faces to fit.

It doesn't end there. The administration involved in hiring actors has to be taken care of, fees have to be negotiated, last-minute hitches untangled, and an over-view of the showbiz scene is needed. Also everything has to be continually kept up to date.

Serena Hill is head of casting at the National Theatre. "I loved the theatre from as far back as I can remember", she said. "As you might think, my automatic reaction was wanting to act, but seeing what other actors were doing, I realized I would never be good enough. However, I did not know then of all the other functions that existed within the theatre."

After a series of theatre-related jobs in administration, supplemented by evening work as a dresser, Serena discovered her vocation while working as an agent's assistant.

"One of my jobs had been to check out the drama schools for potential clients, and I was frequently called up by casting directors because they knew of my aptitude in spotting where the talent lay."

By a lucky coincidence Serena heard of a casting job at the Royal Court Theatre,

Loane Square, and at the interview the artistic director, Max Stafford Clark, asked her to compile a mock casting list for a forthcoming production. When they went through the list, they found their choices were virtually identical. She got the job.

In her present job at the National Theatre, Serena finds that this affinity with the director's interpretation of the characters in a play is essential to the casting process.

"Every director will cast a play differently, therefore it is very important that you compliment the director's tastes. To do that, you must get to know the director as well and as quickly as possible."

"It's all very well knowing a vast number of actors you personally believe to be excellent, but if the director does not trust your taste, he will not see them. The most exciting thing is when the director starts to trust you, because then the work becomes quite creative - otherwise it would be a passive job."

Often there will be availability checks to do, and as there can be odd days when an actor is not available, all details have to be recorded in scrupulous detail.

After consultations with the director, there will be interviews to be set up, dates to be confirmed, and scripts to be posted off. If there are interviews or auditions that day, the casting director will be in attendance, and discussing the results with the director for some time after that. You could even find yourself having to work out the financial outlay for a production.

"I also have a small amount of budgeting to do. I might have to give a rough costing for a play going on tour for a fortnight. Sometimes only half the characters will have been cast, so I would have to think about what salaries the remaining actors would be on. If there are children in the show, they will need chaperones, whose salaries I would take into account. I would then present the result to the accountant and the tours department."

By then a full day will have come to its end at 6pm, but there is still work to be done.

"After that I'm off to the theatre again, and we often go to theatres outside London, as well as taking in the drama schools."

"Here at the National Theatre I'm not necessarily thinking of one play, because in a theatre like this you are working on five or six productions at once. I might see someone who looks right for a production starting next month, or maybe it won't be due for a year, but one does acquire a very good memory."

"I video-record TV productions to watch in my own time, which is usually very late at night after I have been to the theatre."

For the aspiring casting director, Serena says: "Obviously you will need a knowledge and love of theatre, but administrative skills are also needed, so you have to be able to type. Very often it proves wise to have first worked for an agent in a support capacity, where you will learn about actors, and understand their situation properly."

Shirley Teece at Thames TV Light Entertainment suggests a similar approach. "The best thing seems to be to get into the casting department as a secretary. It's usually a long wait, because people don't seem to move around very much, so you just have to wait until a vacancy comes up."

"Most of the casting directors in the company are women, and quite a lot of them have started out as secretaries in the department."

While major theatre and television companies run casting departments in-house, as a rule film companies do not, which offers opportunities for the freelance. This is not easy. To become one you have to be a member of the Cinematograph Television and Allied Technicians Union (ACTT) and you will have had to have worked for an existing member of the union for at least two years.

Michelle Gish and Debbie Williams are two partners working from an office near Wardour Street. "We live a relatively dangerous life", says Debbie Williams. "On Friday we might not know if there is a job on Monday. I find that frightening, but exciting. Each film is quite different. Sometimes they will say: 'We've got Donald Sutherland and Catherine Deneuve and we want you to do everything else', or they might say, 'here's the script, we haven't cast anybody, start at the beginning.'"

Editorial Assistant

A vacancy exists for an assistant to the Principal Editor of Mineralogical Abstracts, an internationally known journal in the field of Mineralogy, Geochemistry and Petrology. The duties involve working mainly from home, and include editing abstracts, corresponding with abstractors world-wide, arranging and numbering the abstracts, checking proofs, collating corrections from other editors, checking the annual index, etc. Must be methodical and accurate. London area base and some knowledge of geology preferred. Salary from £7,500, commensurate with aptitude and experience.

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EDUCATIONAL

Continued on
next page

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UNIVERSITY APPTS



Jaguar Chair of Automotive Engineering

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced candidates for appointment to the new Jaguar Chair of Automotive Engineering, within the Department of Mechanical Engineering. This Chair is in direct association with the recently established interdisciplinary Automotive Engineering Centre of the Faculty of Engineering.

In addition to the active research and development work of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, the postholder will work closely with the Director of the Automotive Engineering Centre in coordinating inter-departmental collaboration, promoting automotive engineering research and maintaining a close working relationship with Jaguar Cars.

The person appointed will also contribute to undergraduate, post-graduate and post-experience courses, and be able to provide academic and business leadership of the highest order.

The successful candidate will have appropriate industrial experience at a high level and a proven academic record.

The initial salary, at an enhanced level appropriate to the demands of the appointment, will be negotiated by the University with the new Professor.

Further particulars from the Vice-Chancellor, University of Birmingham, PO Box 363, Birmingham B15 2TT, to whom applications (3 copies; 1 from overseas candidates) should be sent by 16 May 1988.

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UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM Lectureship in the Department of Music

Applications are invited for an established lectureship in the Department of Music from musically qualified persons with primary specialism in an area of medieval or renaissance music history.

Applicants should have a record of research achievement in their specialism and be willing to teach across the range of medieval and renaissance music history at undergraduate level. It is hoped the successful applicant will encourage performance of early music in the Department and contribute to other courses as appropriate.

Salary within the range £12,500 - £15,500.

Application forms and further particulars, returnable not later than 8 May, from the Staff Appointments Office, University of Nottingham, University Park, Nottingham NG7 2RD (tel 0602 464848 ext 3555; Ref No 1148).

Further particulars from the Vice-Chancellor, University of Nottingham, PO Box 363, Birmingham B15 2TT, to whom applications (3 copies; 1 from overseas candidates) should be sent by 16 May 1988.

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UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM RTZ CHAIR OF BIOCHEMICAL ENGINEERING

Applications are invited for the RTZ Chair of Biochemical Engineering, newly established in the Department of Chemical Engineering and funded by RTZ Chemicals Ltd.

The successful candidate is likely to have industrial experience and a proven academic record. It is also expected that the new Professor will have overall responsibility in the Department for all teaching and research in Biochemical Engineering, including work in the SERC Centre of Biochemical Engineering.

Salary in the professional range, plus superannuation.

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Glasgow
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Required for the Autumn Term, but a candidate unable to start before January will be considered, to head the department of five. Salary will be £17,500.

An application form, together with further details of the post may be obtained from:

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Tel: 041 423 2933

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£12,441-£13,464 (under review)

Due to a restructuring of the management team, we are creating the post of Assistant Principal. The Assistant Principal will join a management team of Principal and Deputy Principal. The Assistant Principal will be experienced and qualified in Teaching or Social Work. The successful candidate will be expected to contribute substantially to staff development and/or curriculum development.

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Independent Boarding School for 520 girls
180 in the Sixth Form

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Applications to the Headmistress with a C.V. and the names and addresses of two referees. (32675) 181824

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The Governors of St Mary's School, Cambridge, an independent R.C. Day School for 600 girls, invite applications for the post of Bursar. The post involves responsibility for the business management of the school and its buildings.

Salary by negotiation. Details of the post and application forms available from the Clerk to the Governors, St Mary's School, Bateman Street, Cambridge, CB2 1LY.

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We specialise in advising parents and students on their choice of independent schools and colleges. If you are looking for a new school or college in the near future, we would be pleased to help you.

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Salary by negotiation. Details of the post and application forms available from the Clerk to the Governors, St Mary's School, Bateman Street, Cambridge, CB2 1LY.

LONDON SE12 COLFE'S SCHOOL

London SE12
HMC 318 pupils

Thames Waterfront Community of Learning

Geography teacher required for September to teach in Outgoing level. Commitment to homework essential and an interest in the use of computers in the subject an advantage. Salary Scale 1 (see below) plus 10% for London Allowance. For suitably qualified and experienced teachers, full time (40 hours per week) with 20% for London Allowance. Applications to the Headmaster, Colfe's School, London SE12 8JL (Tel: 01-832 2283) by 22nd April. (25279) 182821

Applicants with or without 2 references to the Headmaster, Colfe's School, London SE12 8JL (Tel: 01-832 2283) by 22nd April. (25279) 182821

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APPOINTMENTS

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Come and use your skills in interesting assignments all over London. We offer training on the latest WP's, a generous loyalty bonus and top rates. Audio, short-hand, WP, switchboard or clerical skills needed. Please contact Julian Smith.

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Ideal position for a bubbly personality. Join these two dynamic Sales Managers in the busy accessories division and liaise with buyers, merchandisers and suppliers on a daily basis. Attractive perks offered by this prestigious company. Copy typing.

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87 New Bond Street London W.1

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APPOINTMENTS

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This major conference organisation are looking for someone to join their International Division. You'll be liaising with delegates from all over the world and will be totally responsible for their welfare during their stay here. If you enjoy being part of a close knit team and want full involvement please us.

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As PA to the MD of this growing PR company you'll be responsible for looking after clients, setting up conferences, arranging lunches and supervising a junior secretary. Loss of scope to get fully involved in all aspects of the business.

OPEN UNTIL 7 PM EVERY WEDNESDAY

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87 New Bond Street London W.1

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A once in a life-time opportunity when you work for the Managing Partner of this leading firm of solicitors. Ideal for a graduate in your early 30's with a wealth of secretarial experience gained in various senior positions. No legal experience necessary but diplomatic and efficiency together with the ability to relate to all levels of staff is a must. Salary £17,000 plus excellent benefits.

For more details call Kevin Herbert at Fleet Personnel (Rice Cook)
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Are you fed up with being a desk-bound P.A. and in a rut? This high profile design consultancy offers a one-off opportunity to get out and about and put the secretarial role behind you. You will assist the charming senior partner of this sophisticated but fun and creative environment situated in simply amazing riverside offices.

Working alongside intelligent,

down-to-earth people who respect enthusiasm and initiative, you'll be given carte blanche to coordinate your own very varied projects. There will be constant liaison with exclusive designers and well known organisations. Almost no typing, car parking space if needed and the ultimate civilised working environment. Age around 25.

Carrera

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Do you have strong communication and administrative skills? As Personnel Officer reporting to the Chairman of a leading reinsurance firm in EC3 your role will be demanding and varied requiring a commitment to training and development.

You should be a team player with sound experience in the personnel field (preferably insurance); an IPM qualification will be beneficial and keyboard skills are required. Age preferred 26-35. Please call 01-631 0479.

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A first class receptionist is required for busy architectural practice, situated in prestigious offices in the West End.

Varied duties include operating Monarch switchboard (10/40), typing, dealing with callers to the building, making travel arrangements, etc.

Applicants should be well presented and possess excellent communication skills. Preferably aged 20-25.

Salary will be negotiable according to age and experience. Other benefits include twice yearly salary reviews, bonus scheme related to profits, BUPA and up to five weeks holiday a year.

Please write, marked 'confidential' enclosing your CV and a recent photograph, to:

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EDUCATIONAL

Continued from page 35

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The commencing salary of the appointment, which will be for up to approximately two years from the sponsored date that can be arranged, will be on a scale up to £11,680 per annum together with USS/USPS benefits if required.

Informal enquiries may be made to Dr. A.W. Williams, telephone number (0792) 205678, ext. 4463. Further particulars and application forms (2 copies) may be obtained from the Personnel Office, University College of Swansea, Singleton Park, Swansea, SA2 8PP, to which office they should be returned by Friday, 6th May 1988.

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- Wave mechanics and scattering
- Quantum optics and quantum electrodynamics
- Nonlinear optics and laser physics
- Mathematical physics
- Plasma physics and astrophysics
- Statistical mechanics
- Nonlinear dynamics

Candidates should have or expect to have a 1st or 2nd class honours degree in Physics or Mathematics. Further details and an application form are available from the Postgraduate Office, University of Dundee, Dundee DD1 4DA.

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£10,000 neg

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Our ideal applicant would have, impeccable secretarial and administrative skills, including shorthand (120wpm), word processing, and audio experience, be of smart appearance, good telephone manner and have the ability to communicate well at all levels.

The work will be varied and interesting, but busy and demanding. It is essential that applicants can work under pressure, be flexible, identify priorities and be able to take the initiative.

Please apply in writing with full CV to:

Joy Ross,
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Binatone House,
Barnet Avenue,
Wembley,
Middlesex,
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Age 27-34. Salary: £8,000

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If any of these interest you or you are looking for a first job or career move, do call and come in for a general chat.

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RECRUITMENT LTD.
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Experienced property administrator who enjoys both people and property required by Kensington/Leinster Agency. The position involves general administration of our rental portfolio and of the office. Understanding of WP and PC essential.

Salary approx £12,000 + neg.
Apply to:
Irene Jones 01-581-5877/2470.

DESIGN COMPANY - SEC/PA

Recent graduate to run efficiently with successful office. 50% admin. 40% secretarial. 10% 100 wpm typ. Possibility of promotion. Salary £17,000 upwards negotiable a.s.e. Age 24-26.

Telephone Mrs. Byrnes
01 222 5091
NORMA SKEMP
Personnel Services

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This international securities house is looking for someone who wants to get away from a run of the mill secretarial position. Acting as an assistant to their Financial Manager, you will be handling all the back-up administration to the details and transactions they are entering. Working as a young executive team, you will be trained to use Lotus Symphony to produce information on the financial markets. If you are self motivated, with a good educational background and excellent communication skills, this is a great opportunity to get involved in an exciting financial world.

Age 27-34. Salary: £8,000

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For small friendly company in WC1. You need to be a native speaker, well spoken, well organized, well presented, with a good sense of humour. To work for a successful company 'A' level standard. 110/50 wpm. Age 25-35. Must be a native speaker. (Non-smokers). Please ring me at my office 01-404-3111. No Agencies please.

Contact: Sarah Cohen at 01-404-3111

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£7,500 - £8,500 pa

To work for a successful company 'A' level standard. 110/50 wpm. Age 25-35. Must be a native speaker. (Non-smokers). Please ring me at my office 01-404-3111. No Agencies please.

Contact: Sarah Cohen at 01-404-3111

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Contact: Sarah Cohen at 01-404-3111

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£13,000

SLOANE SQUARE

Smart, quick-thinking secretary (25+) with Boardroom experience at Director Level required for lively company dealing with advertising, publishing + conference co-ordination.

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For immediate appointment please contact
Ian Milner on
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Please contact Charlotte on 01-242 6051

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Two enthusiastic secretaries with fast typing speed and good telephone manner required for busy Mayfair firm of surveyors.

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LONDON MARATHON RESULTS

Three-hour barrier broken by 1,825

Here, exclusive to The Times, is the complete list of all the competitors who finished the Mars London Marathon inside three hours. The results have been provided by Tandem Computers, official suppliers of computers to the race. Tomorrow and on Wednesday The Times will publish the names and performances of all the other finishers.

- 1 Henrik Jorgensen (Den) 2:10:20
- 2 Kevin Forster (Eng) 2:10:52
- 3 Kazuyoshi Kudo (Jpn) 2:10:59
- 4 Hugh Jones (Eng) 2:11:05
- 5 David Long (Eng) 2:11:33
- 6 Allister Hutton (Sco) 2:11:42
- 7 Robert Stiffley (Wg) 2:11:54
- 8 Cai Shengyuan (China) 2:12:00
- 9 John Whalley (Eng) 2:12:13
- 10 Charles Spedding (Eng) 2:12:28
- 11 D Chevalier (Fr) 2:12:39
- 12 Steve Bruce (Eng) 2:12:45
- 13 Garhart Hartmann (Aust) 2:13:33
- 14 Kenneth Stuart (Eng) 2:13:38
- 15 Jose da Silva (Bra) 2:13:42
- 16 Arthur Boleau (Can) 2:13:47
- 17 David Edge (Can) 2:14:10
- 18 Karl Harrison (Eng) 2:14:27
- 19 Mehmet Terzi (Tur) 2:14:51
- 20 Peter Luytman (Wg) 2:14:52
- 21 Thomas Eichmann (Swi) 2:15:01
- 22 Iwan Ellis (Wales) 2:15:41
- 23 Hirotaka Saito (Jpn) 2:16:17
- 24 Peter Wallin (Nor) 2:16:21
- 25 Svend Kristensen (Den) 2:16:23
- 26 Lindsay Robertson (Sco) 2:16:26
- 27 Carlos Castano (Arg) 2:16:47
- 28 Zhang Guowei (China) 2:17:10
- 29 Mike Dyon (Can) 2:17:11
- 30 Chris Parkes (Eng) 2:17:50
- 31 Stanley Marley (Eng) 2:18:14
- 32 Alberto Luchetti (It) 2:18:17
- 33 Neil Smith (Eng) 2:18:19
- 34 Ray Smedley (Eng) 2:18:34
- 35 Trevor Fildes (Eng) 2:18:35
- 36 Ole Hansen (Den) 2:18:49
- 37 Vicente Polo (Spain) 2:19:02
- 38 Andrew Giffing (Eng) 2:19:16
- 39 Keith Barr (Nor) 2:19:40
- 40 David McGrath (Eng) 2:19:41
- 41 Daniel Boltz (Aus) 2:19:45
- 42 Mike Gratton (Eng) 2:19:51
- 43 Anthony Simons (Wg) 2:20:08
- 44 Terry Greene (N Ire) 2:20:19
- 45 Yutaka Taketomi (Jpn) 2:20:23
- 46 Michael Halverson (Den) 2:20:31
- 47 George Millar (Sct) 2:20:38
- 48 Russell Foley (Aus) 2:20:59
- 49 Vito Corallo (It) 2:21:07
- 50 Willem Hermans (Bel) 2:21:17



Marathon effort: Ivan Newman makes the pace at Tower Bridge as does Henrik Jorgensen, of Denmark, in the Mall yesterday. (Photographs: Mark Aspland and Julian Herbert)

Vince takes wheelchair race but Bishop's day

Ted Vince, of Canada, the fastest man in the field, proved himself invincible in the wheelchair London Marathon, setting a course record of 2 hours 10 minutes 42 seconds. But Mike Bishop, from Gloucester, clung to his right to the finish on Westminster Bridge coming across the line only five seconds behind.

The race developed into a three-man tussle with Chris Hallam, winner last year, joining Bishop in an attempt to take the sting out of Vince who had won the Los Angeles race in 1:50:03. From the start, the fast Canadian went into an early lead, but the two Britons, working together, pulled him back. With three miles to go, Vince dropped behind, but it was only for a breather, and he soon regained the lead.

Hallam had to concede ground as Vince and Bishop pulled away. But it was Vince, showing the same sprinting speed at the finish as at the start, who went on to victory in his three-wheel chair.

Karen Davidson again showed her supremacy over the other women. She held a steady pace throughout to record a personal best time of 2:41:45 which was a course record.

Sixteen-year-old Adam Dennis, of Tottenham Tigers Club, achieved his ambition by winning the wheelchair mini-marathon over two miles in 12 minutes 40 seconds, defeating last year's winner, Oliver Jones, by four seconds in a sprint finish. Ann Wild, third overall, was first girl home, also last year.



Marathon effort: Ivan Newman makes the pace at Tower Bridge as does Henrik Jorgensen, of Denmark, in the Mall yesterday. (Photographs: Mark Aspland and Julian Herbert)

Women fight for Olympic places

Way behind Ingrid Kristiansen, and well out of sight in the huge field of 22,469 starters, the battle was on among the rest of the women, both British and elsewhere, for Olympics places.

Susan Crehan took more than 15 minutes off her previous marathon best with 2:55:10 which placed her third Briton behind Ingrid Kristiansen and Susan Twib. Whether it was sufficient to earn her a trip to Seoul would depend on the selectors.

The favoured Canadian, Jacqueline Gareau, (best of 2:57:27) was a victim of a cramp in her right leg, leading to a seventh place finish. (2:57:42) just ahead of another British Olympic contender, Angela Pinn, of Leeds.

The mini-battle among the New Zealanders, a star-studded newcomer, Anne Hannan, beating the famed Mary O'Connor (twice second in London, 1983 with 2:38:20 and in 1986 with 2:50:52) by just five seconds in a pedestrian 2:41:20.

For Scotland's evergreen Leslie Watt, running her 150th marathon race, it was yet another performance inside three hours, on this occasion 2:56:21.

- 1 Ingrid Kristiansen 2:41:20
- 2 Anne Hannan 2:41:25
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- 4 Susan Twib 2:41:29
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Pounding out the miles for pounds

By David Powell
Michael Gates took a coachload of supporters with him from Solihull, near Brighton, to the Mars London Marathon yesterday and did not let them down.

With estimates that some £9 million would be raised for charity by marathon participants, Gates played his part. He finished — "no problems at all" — in 3hr 32min. More importantly, he raised over £3,000 as a member of The Times/Tandem Computers London Marathon Appeal.

Gates was attempting his first marathon but knew the drill. He loaded up with pasta — "I think I have eaten 26 miles of it," he said on Saturday night — and, unlike many who finish their debut marathon, he could not wait to get started again. "I am looking forward to New York now," he said.

Gates was running for the Kidney Patients' Association. His son, Michael John, aged five, has endured three failed kidney transplants and time off work to take him for dialysis has, Gates suspects, cost him his job. Michael John seemed unimpressed. Reunited with dad at the finish, his first question was: "Where have you been?"

Roger McCrow received the kind of phone call on Friday that every charity runner dreams of. A sponsor said he would pay him a penny a yard. The benefactor, who lives in Germany, "Do you realize that he paid £460?" he was asked. It made no difference: the Kerland Foundation, McCrow's chosen cause, helps brain damaged children and the sponsor knew it was £460 well pledged.

McCrow, from Hythe, ran 3:41, although he is claiming 3:38 for the time taken to cross the start line. When you are on the road for that length of time, the problems can be more wide-ranging than those experienced by the leaders. "Boredom set in between 14 and 18 miles," McCrow confessed. "But once I down the Embankment the support was fantastic and I got over it."

Jane Dewey, an American, achieved a marathon feat never attempted by the likes of Henrik Jorgensen, the winner, and Kevin Forster, the runner-up. Dewey spent 5hr 20min running. "I thought I would have to walk but I ran all the way," she said.

It was her first marathon. More than that, it was her first race. ATD Fourth World, who will pick up £1,000 or so, will be glad she got started.

For some, counting the money will be easier than counting the miles. Andrew Fane, who finished in 3hr 47min, may be an exception. He was hoping to raise £10,000 for the Friends of the Children of Great Ormond Street Hospital.

The Times and Tandem Computers hope that by featuring the efforts of our 12 fund-runners we will help them find sponsorship for their worthy causes. If you wish to support one or more of them, write, clearly stating your beneficiaries, to: The Times/Tandem Computers London Marathon Appeal, Sports Department, The Times, Virginia Street, London E1 9BH. We will send you our donations.

Tandem Computers are offering prizes of £250, £150 and £100 in sports shop vouchers, or contributions to their causes, to the three biggest fund-runners from our 12. Every member of the squad will receive a memento. Complete results of their efforts will be published tomorrow.

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Britons prepared to sacrifice Games over Budd

By Pat Butcher
Athletics Correspondent

The wider political ramifications of the year's ban facing Zola Budd were temporarily forgotten yesterday with an extraordinary display of solidarity from Hugh Jones and Kevin Forster, who, having just won their Olympic places with their performances in the London Marathon, said they would be prepared to forego them in defence of Budd.

The British Amateur Athletic Board was instructed by the International Amateur Athletic Federation on Saturday to suspend Budd for a year, with the scarcely-veiled threat that the BAAB itself would risk suspension if the instruction was not followed. In that unlikely event, no British athlete could compete in the Olympic Games, among other international competitions.

Yet Forster and Jones, second and fourth in the London Marathon, but automatically qualifying for Olympic places by virtue of being the first Britons home, both urged the BAAB to reject the IAAF's demand.

Forster said: "I think the Board should defend her, even if it means no British team going to the Olympics. In this instance, there isn't sufficient evidence to back a ban. The Board is reaping a bitter harvest for what it did four years ago."

Jones, who is one of the

Door is open

Colin Meylan, Minister for Sport, said of the Budd situation: "At the end of the day, it has to be the British Amateur Athletic Board which makes the decision. It is the board that runs athletics and not me. And no one would want it any differently. But if the BAAB wishes to have a meeting some time this week, then my door is open. I'm not going to put pressure on anyone."

Asked about the Government's stance on sporting links with South Africa, he reiterated its support for the Gleneagles Declaration.

most politically aware of British athletes, said: "She's the innocent party. It will be completely spineless and without principle if the Board backs down and doesn't back her. It is already found wanting for not advising her. There is a principle here, you just can't let someone be treated in that way. [Her situation] is due to the incompetence of the IAAF and British Board. She's not particularly culpable. There are other sports and other spheres who sustain this [South African] regime far more than any of her actions have done. I would be prepared not to go."

Susan Tooby and Dave Long were more ambivalent. Tooby, second British woman in her first proper marathon, thus qualifying for Seoul, said: "I feel sorry for Zola. She's a

great athlete, and it shouldn't be happening to her. But I don't think all British athletes should be sacrificed for one person."

Long, the former fun-runner, who was fifth, and a possible for the third men's Olympic place, said: "It seems ridiculous to have all this fuss now. The evil deed was done four years ago. If I've run well enough to make the Olympic team, I'd like to go."

But, whatever the athletes' reactions, the fact remains that the sporting boycott, or even the threat of it as a political weapon, has resurfaced with a vengeance.

The concept of the sporting boycott was born out of frustration with South Africa's apartheid politics. It is not outlandish to suggest that, with Mrs Thatcher being the only Commonwealth Prime Minister to oppose sanctions, and her government being responsible for giving Budd a British passport within 10 days four years ago, this is the tardy response.

There should be no doubt as to the outcome. John Bryant, Budd's coach, observed after the IAAF demand on Saturday, and the BAAB's initial outraged reaction: "The Board is being very bullish in its public attitude." But, already by yesterday morning, Mike Farrell, the Board general secretary, was talking about trying to get the year's ban reduced, effectively accepting it as a *fait accompli*, although there is an official board council meeting next Sunday to discuss the IAAF "request". There is little or no doubt that Budd will be suspended.

But the Africans have made it clear that, after a year, if she has stayed in Britain, they will have no further objection to her competing internationally. It is probably not widely realized that the suspension would apply only to international competition. Budd could run in Britain.

The decision of the IAAF council, which was meeting in London on Friday and Saturday, came in a three-page document, which argued that she had taken part in a cross-country meeting at Brakpan, South Africa, last June by supporting it.

As if to prove that it does not discriminate, the IAAF council also approved the suspension from further competition of Mark Plaatjes, the black South African who recently revoked his passport and was given a six-month permission to race in the United States. He finished third in the Los Angeles marathon last month. He raced in New York yesterday and also turned up in Boston for today's marathon, news of which caused the Ethiopians to divert to Rotterdam, where Belanyeh Dinsamo broke the world marathon record yesterday.

Jack Buckner, the European 5,000 metres champion, said: "From a personal point of view, I would not want Britain not to miss the Olympics over this issue; that would be tragic. I would hope that Zola would not jeopardize other British athletes' chances of competing in Seoul."

Liz McColgan, the runner-up in the world cross-country championship last year, said: "It's a shame that anyone should have to go through all this — it is a sport after all. They're just using her as a political pawn, and it's getting out of hand."

Forster can afford to smile

By Pat Butcher

Four years ago, when Zola Budd was little more than a front page spread in the *Daily Mail*, Kevin Forster sat cheerfully rueful in the London Marathon changing rooms, having run the race of his life, yet having seen his Gateshead club colleague, Charlie Spedding, beat him to first position and the single remaining place in the British Olympic marathon squad.

Forster finished second again yesterday. But with Henryk Jorgensen, of Denmark, in front of him, and two places open on the British team, which should be going to Seoul (see adjoining story), Forster's race-long grimace had blossomed into a broad grin.

"I thought about last time as I was coming past Big Ben," Forster said, savouring the experience again. Since the timely landmark is only 385 yards from the finish, and Forster was about the same distance ahead of Hugh Jones, the second Briton, he had left his satisfaction until the last moment to surface.

That is perhaps understandable. Because up until 20 of the 26 miles and 385 yards, Forster had been one of around a dozen Britons still in contention for the two automatic selections. And that dozen was part of a group of 20 chasing the runaway Jose da Silva, of Brazil.

Since, as Hugh Jones, the other automatic qualifier said later, none of them knew who da Silva was (and even less that he lives in Richmond), "He wasn't a factor."

But the tiny, elegant da Silva remained a factor until 21 miles, when Jorgensen led the sweep past him. The Brazilian was rewarded with over a two minute improvement on his best time, finishing fifteenth in 2hr 13min 42sec.

Jorgensen's effort, aided by a typically gritty Jones, broke up the large group completely in the last five miles. Jones



Winners both: Kristiansen and Jorgensen yesterday (Photograph: Alan Weller)

held second temporarily, and looked like maintaining his record of never being beaten by a Briton in this race.

But Forster was going to make absolutely sure this time. Jorgensen, third in this race in 1983, and already selected for the Olympics on the basis of his world championship performance last summer, won in 2:10.20. Forster finished in 2:10.52, his best time by almost a minute. Kazuyoshi Kudo, of Japan, was third in 2:10.59, also a personal best. And the ever-reliable Jones was fourth in 2:11.08.

Dave Long's fifth place in 2:11.33, over three minutes inside his previous best, and exactly five minutes faster than his effort two years ago, brought the inevitable debate

over the third Olympic place to the surface.

Steve Jones, due to greater prize money, and an argument (yet to be aired publicly) with Chris Brasher, the London organizer, is running the Boston marathon today.

Forster, in particular was critical of the advantage which that gives Jones. "Steve knows exactly what he's got to do to qualify. [Apart from finishing in the first two], none of us knew that today. There's just no way that you can compare his run tomorrow." The consensus was that Jones would have to run considerably faster than Long to justify getting selected.

The women's Olympic selection is more clear cut.

Priscilla Welch, the British record-holder, is also running Boston today. But Sue Crehan, third British woman yesterday ran 2:35.10, a time which puts her beyond consideration. Ann Ford, who said she may not accept her Olympic place, due to her younger son starting school in September, was first British woman in second place overall in 2:30.38, beating Ery Palm, of Sweden, and marathon debutant, Susan Tooby, who was fourth (second Briton) in 2:32.09.

Such is the excellence we (and herself) expect of Ingrid Kristiansen, her first place in 2:25.41 was considered a poor run. Yet, only three women other than herself had bettered

Loyalty comes before the law

By David Miller
Chief Sports Correspondent

Let one aspect of the Zola Budd issue be understood. She obtained a British passport, whatever other considerations, because it opened the door to a substantial sum of money, with the abolition of amateur regulations.

It is irritating to have to return to this controversy, yet any reader is doubtless committed to one or other side of the argument, which is not just about ideology, morality and law, as it affects one displaced citizen but, more importantly, about whether a British team will compete in the Olympic Games.

The heart of the argument is like an iceberg, of which only the more recent details are immediately evident. To give a single instance of the indignation which has slowly built up into that iceberg: when MCC toured South Africa in 1976, the Cricket Association of the Indian (non-white) community, based mainly in the Cape, requested MCC for a friendly match. They did not even receive a reply.

The white man, African or anyone else, delayed too long a recognition of black South African dignity to claim now that black Africa is not playing the game fairly. Nor is it any good pointing to racial injustice elsewhere — Haiti, Guyana, Uganda, the Soviet Union — as mitigation. Inhumanity in one prison does not excuse inhumanity in another.

Hair-trigger of black resentment

Zola Budd and her advisers, who from the outset have handled her activities with insensitivity, not to say incompetence, should have been aware of the risks they ran, if the hair-trigger of black resentment, as the captain of a submarine trying to penetrate the enemy's own waters. She, and they, were not.

That is why, as I have suggested before, the British Amateur Athletic Board is pleading — a fundamentally weak case when claiming the law supports Budd: that she did not compete in South Africa. It is naive to argue that Budd is so different from any other spectator turning up to train alongside such an event.

Suppose you were about to sign a contract with someone with the highest credentials in the City; and that you discovered that your client, without in any way dealing in anything illegal or improper, was a regular visitor at parties, conducted beyond reproach yet held in the house, albeit in his absence elsewhere, of Reginald Kray. Would you proceed with the contract?

The IAAF, in their deliberations in London, have not been hell-bent on twisting the law in their favour against the facts. There are honourable men among them: including Lamine Diack, the vice-president from Senegal, who competed internationally in France at both athletics and football.

Diack is a reasonable man who, together with others, finds that the spirit of the law has been warped, for a matter of convenience, on the strength of Budd's English grandfather.

Turning their back on 400 athletes

In weighing their decisions, whether to concede to the IAAF or to support Budd, the British Board should look carefully at where their loyalties lie, not merely at the law.

Do they turn their back on a team of nearly 400 competitors preparing and hoping to be selected for Seoul on the basis of upholding a relationship into which they entered hastily and without judgement four years ago?

John Carlisle, MP, says that Budd has committed no crime and "we should hold up our head with honour."

Yet Budd has repeatedly continued to consort with her people in their land. I have said before that, in the spirit of morality, Budd should, inalienably establish her credentials as being British to justify her participation in international events.

An honourable compromise by the British Board would be to demand a guarantee that the IAAF will honour Budd's eligibility from 1989 onwards if she establishes genuine residence between then and now; and forgoes the Olympic Games.

Victory for Suzuki

Tokyo (AP) — Aguri Suzuki, of Japan, won the second leg of the eight-race international Formula F3000 series. Suzuki, aged 27, pipped his compatriot, Kazuyoshi Hoshino.

Dinsamo sets world best in Rotterdam

Belanyeh Dinsamo set a world best marathon time in Rotterdam yesterday, and gave substance to rumours which had been circulating at the IAAF meeting on Friday and Saturday, namely that the Ethiopians are reconsidering their boycott of the Olympic Games (Pat Butcher writes).

After a duel with Ahmed Saleh, of Djibouti, between 34 and 40 kilometres, Dinsamo, who won the race last year in 2:12.58, recorded 2:06.49. He ran the last 2,195 kilometres 37 seconds faster than Carlos Lopes, when the Portuguese set the previous world record of 2:07.12 on the same course three years ago. Saleh also beat Lopes' time with 2:07.07. Wodajo Bulti, another Ethio-

pian, was third in his marathon debut in 2:08.44.

Dinsamo, aged 30, a policeman, who had run 2:08.29, said afterwards that the Olympic boycott should not be taken for granted.

● BOSTON: It will be a case of Alas Smith or Jones when the British selectors sit tonight to decide the marathon teams for Seoul (Stephen Downes writes). Steve Jones, and Geoff Smith have gambled by staking their claim for Olympic selection in Boston today. With two places in the British team guaranteed to Kevin Forster and Hugh Jones for their performances in London yesterday, Smith and Steve Jones are racing for, at best, the final place in the team.

80 YEARS OF MARATHON PROGRESS

Competitor	Venue	Date	Time
Johnny Hayes (US)	London	24/7/08	2:55:18
Robert Fowler (US)	Yonkers	11/1/09	2:52:45
James Clark (US)	New York	12/2/09	2:48:52
Albert Raines (US)	New York	8/5/09	2:48:04
Harry Barratt (GB)	London	26/5/09	2:42:31
Alexis Ahlgren (Swe)	London	31/5/13	2:36:06
Hannes Kolehmainen (Fin)	Antwerp	22/8/20	2:32:25
Al Mecklen (US)	Port Chester	12/10/25	2:29:01
Abeloe Stein (Eth)	Tokyo	31/8/85	2:27:49
Yasuo Norita (Japan)	Tokyo	24/8/85	2:26:44
Khei Son (Japan)	Tokyo	31/1/88	2:26:42
Yun Bok Suh (Korea)	Boston	19/4/87	2:25:30
Jim Peters (GB)	London	14/6/82	2:20:42.2
Jim Peters	London	13/6/83	2:18:40.2
Jim Peters	Turku	4/10/83	2:18:34
Jim Peters	London	26/8/84	2:17:39
Serge Popov (USSR)	Stockholm	24/8/86	2:16:17
Abeloe Stein (Eth)	Rome	10/9/80	2:15:16
Toru Tanasawa (Japan)	Bogota	17/7/82	2:15:15
Buddy Edelen (US)	London	15/6/83	2:14:28
Basel Haseley (GB)	London	13/6/84	2:13:55
Abeloe Bkila (Eth)	Tokyo	21/10/84	2:12:11
Morio Shigematsu (Japan)	London	12/8/85	2:12:00
Derek Clayton (Aus)	Fukuoka	3/12/87	2:09:38
Derek Clayton	Antwerp	30/5/88	2:08:33
Rick de Castelnau (Aus)	Fukuoka	9/12/81	2:08:18
Steve Jones (GB)	Chicago	21/10/84	2:06:15
Carlos Lopes (Por)	Rotterdam	20/4/85	2:04:25
Belanyeh Dinsamo (Eth)	Rotterdam	17/4/88	2:06:50

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Long wait over for McEnroe

From Barry Wood
Tokyo

John McEnroe, who won his first tournament for almost 18 months when he beat Stefan Edberg in the Suntory Japan Open yesterday, believes he still has a long way to go in his return to top level play.

The 6-2, 6-2 win over the defending champion brought a successful conclusion to McEnroe's first tournament for seven months. But he remains cautious.

"It takes time to play all the top players and see how you stand, and you have to play on different surfaces in different situations, so it's going to take a few months to see what's happening," he said.

"To get to that level you have to be consistent, too. I have to aim to be consistently beating all the top players for six months."

McEnroe also sees himself as the standard-bearer for men's tennis, which he believes is rapidly losing ground to the women's game.

"What's happening with Graf, Sabatini and Navratilova almost seems as exciting as what is happening with the men."

"I commend them but we have got to get our act together and I would like to be part of it," added McEnroe.

A pulled stomach muscle hindered Edberg's efforts to stop McEnroe. His serve had no penetration. "I pulled the muscle three days ago and I couldn't move or serve today," he said.

In the boys' event, Mark Petchey defeated Colin Beecher in an all-British final to claim his third title in succession.

Cautious Dujon's fifth century

From Richard Streeton
Port of Spain, Trinidad

Jeff Dujon completed his fifth Test hundred as West Indies reached 391 in their second innings on the fourth day of the second Cable and Wireless Test here yesterday. It left Pakistan needing to make 372 to win the match and take a 2-0 lead in the three-match series. Today is a rest day and the match finishes tomorrow.

Pakistan made 16 in the three overs they batted before lunch. They faced a hard task but were not entirely without hope as the pitch was playing easier than at any previous time. West Indies resumed at 329 for eight and it took the Pakistanis 95 minutes to take the last two wickets as West Indies added a further 62 runs.

This has been a gripping Test match, with first one side and then the other holding the initiative and it was not altogether unexpected when the tension on Saturday brought a controversy. Richards had made 25 when he moved out against Imran Khan and the ball hit his pads. Imran's lbw appeal was turned down by Clyde Cumberbatch

and the Pakistan captain was clearly disappointed.

Saleem Yousuf, the wicketkeeper, and Richards could be seen exchanging heated words. It was learned later that Richards asked the wicketkeeper why he had appealed. Imran then asked the umpire: "Don't I have the right to ask?"

The Pakistanis also asked the umpires to request Richards to stop swearing at them. Mr Cumberbatch declined to elaborate but confirmed that at no time was Imran guilty of dissent. Play was held up for three or four minutes and the exchanges initially were misinterpreted by the crowd.

They heard radio commentators accuse Imran of despicable behaviour.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Waiting on Harding

England, who know already that they will be without Jonathan Webb, the Bristol full back, for the last leg of their summer rugby union tour to Australia and Fiji, must wait to see whether Richard Harding, his club colleague, will also be available against Fiji (David Hands writes).

Harding, an estate agent, has yet to confirm that he can stay on for the final five days of the tour and hopes to know whether his business can release him within the next fortnight.

Three tries

Cheryl Stannett scored three tries as Wasps beat Richmond, 34-6, in the final of the women's Rugby Union Cup at Rosslyn Park yesterday.

Off target

A strong wind, which diverted aim by as much as 15 feet, and an outstanding Australian performance, combined to push the Great Britain team into second place in the Palma Trophy long-range rifle match in Sydney on Saturday.

Pole winner

Johnny Herbert, of England, driving a Reynard-Cosworth, led from start to finish to win the opening Formula 3000 championship race of the season at Jerez de la Frontera, Spain yesterday, ahead of Mark Blundell and Michel Trolle.

Starting well

David Thorpe, of Great Britain, the former champion, started the quest to regain his 500cc world moto-cross title by winning both races in the opening round of this year's championship in the Vienna Woods yesterday.



Stannett: no retirement

Carrying on

Ingermar Stannett, the Swedish slalom skier, will delay his retirement to take part in a record sixteenth World Cup season next year.

England lose

The England women's ice-crosse team lost 4-2 to an under-23 college squad in Philadelphia, but recovered to beat the United States 10-2 to win the international series 2-0 with one game to play.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Richards, who struggled increasingly against a cramp, was finally sixth out at 272. His 22nd Test hundred lasted five hours and he hit 13 fours. Qadir took his 200th Test wicket when he dismissed Marshall but West Indies continued to extend their lead.

Imran and Qadir persevered gamely in an attack that lacked Ijaz Faqih (bruised hand) and had Wasim Akram limping badly.

WEST INDIES: First Innings 174 (Imran Khan 4 for 38, Abdul Qadir 3 for 85).

Second Innings

C O Greenidge c sub b Imran 29

D L Haynes c Ijaz Faqih b Imran 20

R B Richardson c Yusuf b Imran 40

A L Long b Imran 40

W V R Richardson b b West 123

C L Rogers c Ijaz Faqih b Imran 108

Y P J L Dujon not out 28

M D Marshall b Qadir 2

E L Catterick b b Qadir 1

W K M Benjamin b b Qadir 27

Extras (b 9, lb 14, nb 4) 27

Total 391

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1, 2-54, 3-98, 4-61, 5-175, 6-272, 7-284, 8-301, 9-357.

BOWLING: Imran 45-8-115-5; Aqam 22-17-5-1; Qadir 47-6-148-4; Faqih 40-22-0-3; Shoaib 3-0-6-0.

PAKISTANI First Innings 194 (Salim Malik 66; M D Marshall 4 for 55).

Second Innings

Mudassar Nazar not out 3

Ramiz Raja not out 12

Extras 2

Total (no wicket) 19

Yousaf (no wicket) 16

Umpires: C E Cumberbatch and L H Barker.

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